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ORGATEC 2024

WOD Panel by Lapalma
design: Raffaella Mangiarotti



Discarding the superfluous to achieve a balance that is the very measure of elegance. This is the challenge won by **WOD**, the new panel by **Lapalma,** designed by **Raffaella Mangiarotti.**

Presented as a *concept* at the Salone del Mobile Milano and then further developed for its official launch at Orgatec, the WOD partition consists of a succession of elements in wood or felt, joined by hide hinges, allowing it to fully adapt to a linear or curved position. It is very simple. Yet its simplicity, far from being a starting point, is more the result of the designer and the company engaged in painstakingly reducing its complexity.

The system, which does not involve the use of metal elements or screws, relies on an **interlocking mechanism**: the panels have a slot where a three-pocket cylindrical hinge can be easily inserted, and then fastened with three wooden dowels.

With its understated yet impressive design– due to the dimensions to which it extends (it can also be customised in size, being presented at Orgatec in a height of 180 cm) and the materials used (wood or felt available in various finishes combined with natural or black hide which ensure sturdiness and flexibility, as a refined detail embellishing the overall effect) – this innovative panel represents **a very distinct approach towards aesthetics and design.**

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"*It's not entirely true that I shy away from decorative elements, as some claim*," remarks Raffaella Mangiarotti. "*I would say, instead, that I'm fascinated by the beauty of structural and expressive elements, by the purity of a harmonious style, just as nature in all its guises can be harmonious. And when a functional and technical component becomes decorative, as in this case, I'm happy about it.*"

WOD **can be easily disassembled,** as it consists of interlocking elements without the use of screws: simply slide the hide hinges off the element by hand. Moreover, being made of a single material, **it is easy to recycle at the end of its life**.
Lastly, it can be transported in a sustainable manner, in **a flat pack**, which lowers emissions and transport costs.

Versatile by nature, thanks to the variety of finishes the company offers – including wood finishes (natural ash or bleached oak), open-pore lacquered finishes available in various colours, and felt also in various colours – it easily blends into different contexts. It is therefore ideal for creating private areas in open-plan settings in offices, hotels or restaurants, as well as in sophisticated home interiors.

www.lapalma.it

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Lapalma

For over forty years, the company has been producing furniture for the home and for the contract sector, achieving prestigious national and international acclaim thanks to the consistent and constant pursuit of high-quality materials, workmanship and finishes. Over the years, using "bare" handcrafted materials and all-Italian production have guaranteed reliability, quality and customer care, features that are part of Lapalma's DNA. The brand's new collections introduce softness and fabric upholstery, focusing on colour, warmth and handcrafted details while opening up – alongside important contract projects - to contract-home projects, with products that can belong to both worlds, thus confirming its ability to satisfy more markets and needs.

The offer is complemented with the development of products that, while maintaining high formal and production quality, are positioned in a more attractive and competitive price band. Research is carried out into materials for upholstery (hide, leather and eco-leather) and into textiles, padding or foamed elements, included in new projects and in some ongoing projects.

For a long time, Lapalma has been working with internationally renowned designers, with whom the company has established long-lasting valuable relationships. In the future, the company intends, on the one hand, to provide continuity and loyalty to some of these partnerships and, on the other hand, to introduce new names that have shown a potential affinity with the brand in terms of sensitivity, professionalism and adaptability.

Since 2021, the headquarters in Cadoneghe (PD), 14,500 square metres of modern, bright and attractive spaces powered by solar energy, has been partnering Lapalma for Architects Milano, a space dedicated to architects and interior designers, as well as Lapalma for Architects London, the company's new location in Clerkenwell, which opened in October 2024.