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### Public Spaces Just Got a Lot More Fun Thanks to Playground from Encore

April 4, 2017, Cerritos, CA—If there's one thing interior environments require today, it's flexibility. The freedom to reconfigure as needs or preferences change is what keeps spaces lively and fresh – and that's just what Playground, a comprehensive new line of modular benches, lounge seating and occasional tables by Encore, is designed to do.

Aptly named, Playground lends a youthful touch to its surroundings thanks to its light-scale design and the imaginative number of different models within the collection which, when combined, provide endless opportunities for customization in both shape and size. Modular benches – the cornerstone of the series – are available with or without backrests, in straight or curved models, as well as transitional pieces that allow for opposite seated directions. All models work together and can be integrated to create straight-line formations, serpentine arrangements, or all manner of playful configurations.

Conceived by product designer Christopher Panichella, Playground took shape – literally and figuratively – out of the need for a lighter, more easily repositioned modular seating offering. “In this new culture of sharing and spontaneous collaboration, mixed-use spaces have emerged and with them, the need to provide multi-use furniture solutions,” states Panichella. “Playground was intentionally engineered to offer just that – a full family of seating and tables that are visually and physically light, encouraging them to be regrouped for changing needs in almost any application.”

The extensive array of bench models can be utilized as standalone pieces or modular units that can be ganged together or easily repositioned onsite. Options include a rotating tablet with a 360-degree turning radius, a more petite stationary table-ette and integrated power units that encourage visitors to relax and recharge for hours on end.

Like their modular namesake, lounge, love seat and sofa models are smartly scaled with a light, airy feel and flexibility in mind. The open back gently curves around the seat to seamlessly form armrests, providing welcoming support and comfort. Accompanying ottomans in 22”, 30”, and 36” sizes function as short-term touchdown areas, ancillary seating for collaborative spaces or even as additional surface options for belongings.

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A distinctive die-cast metal leg is present throughout the collection and not only provides a signature design detail that unifies all elements into a cohesive family, but also extends upward to suspend the backrest on applicable models.

Rounding out the full family of products, occasional tables are available in multiple sizes and material finishes for exceptional versatility. Table tops come in four shapes – round, oval, square and rectangular – and are offered in beech, white oak and walnut wood species or laminate for additional durability. An optional second-tier table provides added functionality while contributing its own unique design detail.

“Playground is the largest in scope of any Encore offering to date,” says David Logsdon, Encore’s Director of Sales. “All of the products in the collection have a function and a purpose, whether used independently or together as a family. The modular capabilities are so extensive too – it allows designers to really showcase their creativity and enliven spaces in unexpected ways.”

One thing is certain: whether you stick to the rules or make it up as you go along, Playground provides plenty of function without spoiling the fun.

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*Raising the benchmark in design, comfort and quality, Encore is a leading provider of contemporary options-oriented seating and table products for a host of applications, ranging from corporate offices to educational institutions, hospitality, healthcare facilities and more.*

*With a focus on flexibility and personalized attention, Encore strives to provide innovative solutions for ever-changing requirements and deliver outstanding service for customers every time, offering standard lead-times of five weeks or less, an extensive Quick-Ship program, as well as partnerships with some of the most widely recognized textile manufacturers in the industry.*

*Sharing strong organizational ties to parent company, Arcadia, they are able to draw upon an established knowledge base of product design, engineering, sales and service, all the while maintaining competitive pricing and a comprehensive warranty on all products. An assured manufacturing capability, enduring commitment to new product development and responsive approach to customer service have solidified Encore’s reputation as a leader in the contract furniture industry.*

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