

T500, by OMK

Back in the early Eighties, OMK designed the original seats for Gatwick Airport, a line of seating called Transit. Looking to create its successor, Rodney Kinsman designed the T500 to minimise the number of components and create a minimal appearance better suited to today's trends.

The beam is made from extruded aluminium, which connects to a single wishbone-like bracket that supports two identical seat and back panels. The final component is, of course, its legs. The seat and back panels are

available in sheet steel with a new hard-wearing powder coating or an injection-moulded, self-skinned polyurethane in any RAL colour.

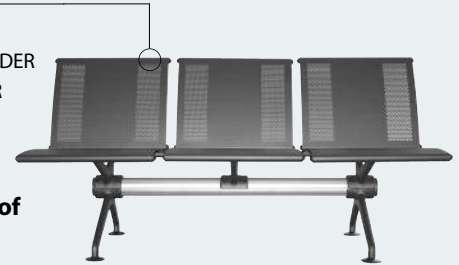
This simplified concept not only reduces manufacturing costs, but also offers advantages for airport maintenance when cleaning and changing the panels. The entire unit may be assembled in minutes using a single tool. The aluminium beam allows the panels to be positioned as a continuous bench of any length, or as individual spaced seats with intermediary arms or tables.

With comfort in mind, Kinsman rolled the top edges of

the back and the front of the seat panels. This helps to eliminate accidental impact injuries as passengers struggle with luggage or jet lag as they sling an arm over the chair's back in attempts to snooze, perhaps after a flight is cancelled.

WHAT ARE THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN DESIGNING SEATING FOR TRANSPORT LOUNGES?

- **Quantity**
- **Comfort**
- **Longevity and the ease of maintenance**



AIR TRAVEL

UK airport use

- April 08-March 09
228.95 million passengers, (April 07-March 08, 241.12 million, a drop of five per cent)

Executive travel

- Executive jet use down by more

than 20 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2008 against the same period in 2007 after four years of high growth

Business travel

- 63 million business passengers in 2007 (but the number dipped in 2008)
- (20 million in 1996)

• Business travellers are increasingly travelling economy for short-haul, and premium economy on long-haul

Budget/no-frills

- 30 per cent share of short-haul market, 2007
- (3 per cent in 1996)

Information supplied by the Civil Aviation Authority

LONDON BUS TOUR

**Design Museum 3pm £15
Sunday 12 July**

All aboard the Design Museum's Route master bus for a city design tour. Commentary will be led by Joe Kerr, head of critical and historical studies at the RCA.



30 Stephen Street London W1T 1QR
T: +44 (0)20 7631 1335
F: +44 (0)20 7631 3227