

# spaces

Photography • Industry News • People • Projects

Issue 7

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## Message From The President

### The Right Tool For The Job

Have you ever tried to do a job with the wrong tools? Typically, the results take longer and aren't quite as good as if you had a tool made for the task. Well, the other day, my wife called me from the Idaho State Capitol. She's in the House of Representatives for the Idaho State

Government. For two months out of the year, she works alongside all the other citizen legislators at the Capitol to make laws for Idaho. She called me because her state-supplied office chair that came with her small cubicle had no arms and was seemingly purchased at some basement bargain sale. She could only sit in it for short periods of time before getting uncomfortable. Wrong tool for the job. So the other day, I dropped off a task chair from Steelcase for her to use for a few months. Not only is she the envy of the legislators, but she now has a proper tool for the job and can work for extended periods of time in comfort. Wherever you work (home, office, Capitol building), take some time to consider your furniture as your tools to do your job. Are you using the right tools? Would an investment in your tools yield more efficient or higher quality work?

Scott Galloway  
President

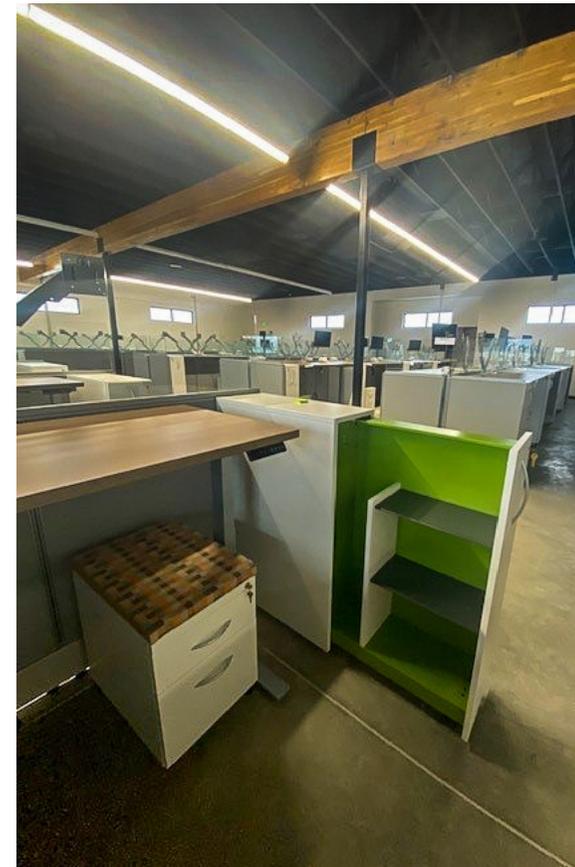
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Bastian Solutions  
Meridian, ID  
Steelcase Think Chairs

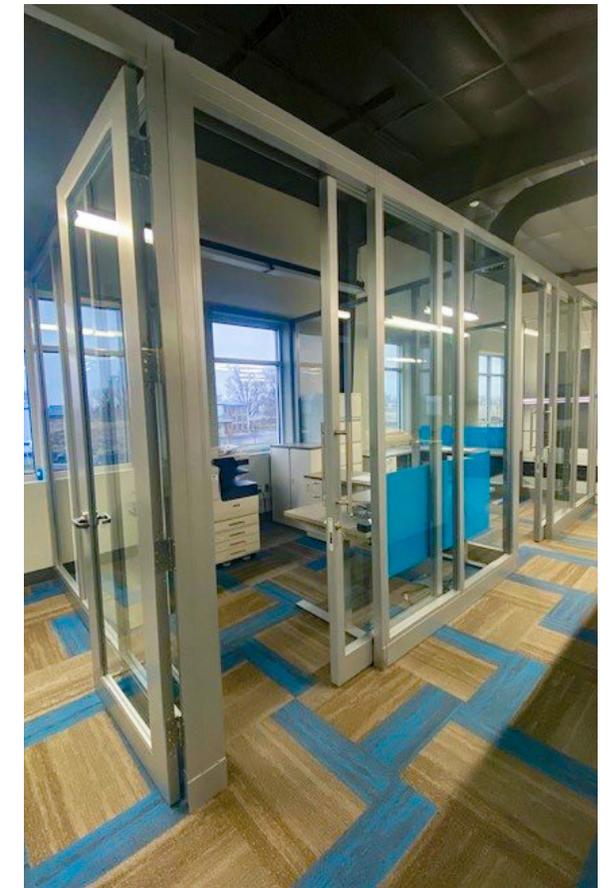


Bastian Solutions  
Meridian, ID  
Steelcase Modular Wall



Homestyle Direct  
Twin Falls, ID  
AIS Mobile Ped,  
Height Adjustable Desk &  
Workstation Panels  
Steelcase High Density Storage

Magic Valley Electric  
Jerome, ID  
Steelcase Modular Wall





Copperstone Dental  
Meridian, ID  
Allseating Exchange Sofa

# Coming Home



Nova Grand Opening  
Left to Right

David Goehring: Boise Service Engineer, Dewaine Hale: Boise Service Manager, Igor Nosikovsky: Israel Business Manager, Gaby Waisman: Israel Chief Business Officer, Haokun Hu: Boise Account Manager, Carolina Gomez: Boise Application Engineer, Laura LaFleur: Fremont, CA HR Partner, Manuel Balcita: Fremont, CA - US Facility Manager

"When I first joined Nova, I asked, 'Where do we meet?' They responded, 'At our office, Café Capri, and they have great coffee!' - Haokun Hu

When Haokun Hu joined Nova Measuring Instrument, Inc. as the Account Operations Manager in March of 2021, he was on a mission to create a home base for the local team. For years, the Boise team worked from home, on the customer site, or the coffee shop supporting its clients. This was not a long-term solution, and employees needed a private and collaborative space. Fast forward, and Nova has made a home for itself right next to the company it has committed to serving.

### Solutions for Semiconductor Manufacturers

So, what does Nova do, and why is its office location so important? For starters, Nova was founded in 1993 and is the leading supplier for dimensional and

material metrology solutions for semiconductor chip manufacturers. Their extensive portfolio of products and services act as customer's eyes and ears in measuring the quality of the products they are manufacturing and subsequently helping them improve the yield. Therefore, having an office minutes away from a key strategic customer is essential to delivering on Nova's promise of excellent service.

### Creating A Unified Design

But how do you create a unified look and feel for offices spread around the globe? You start with a unifying design principle, home. Haokun Hu and the US headquarters Facilities Manager Manny Balcita

identified a building near the customer surrounded by other suppliers to fulfill this task. Next, they collaborated with both the US and Israel head office teams with the goal of designing the office to feel like their headquarters in Israel and the US (California). "Whether you are walking into a site that has seven or three employees, it shouldn't look different than the site with seven hundred," says Manny Balcita. To achieve this continuity, they enlisted local vendors like OEC to help them design the informal, relaxed, and collaborative environment that their employees would call home.

**Working With OEC**

Working with OEC's design and sales team, Haokun and Manny began to fill in their empty shell of an office. "We went in with a basic idea of how many chairs and workstations we wanted and how they would best stimulate collaboration. Then we decided on the best layout. Jill (OEC workplace consultant) was very understanding and accommodating from

the beginning. We made some design changes mid-way, and she helped us create the same feeling as our headquarters offices within our budget. During this selection process, the most important thing to me was good communication and a quick response which is exactly what Jill and the OEC team gave us." - Haokun Hu

**Claiming Their New Home**

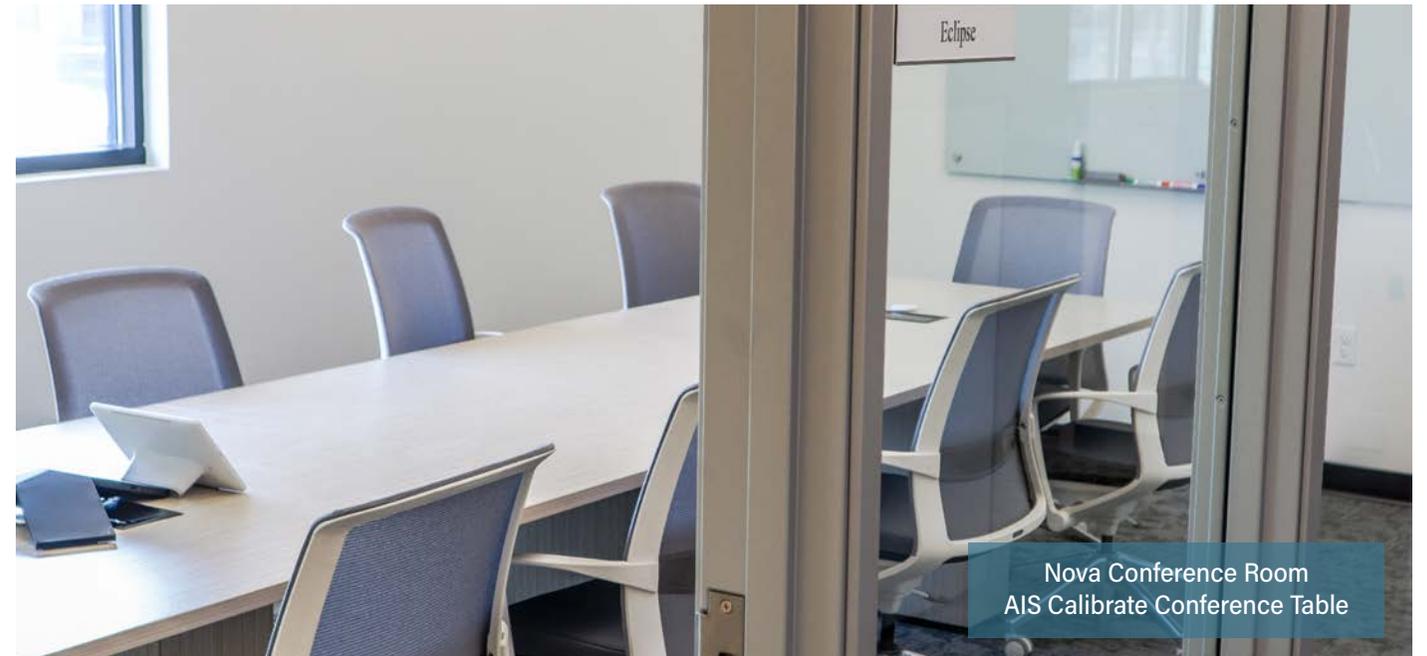
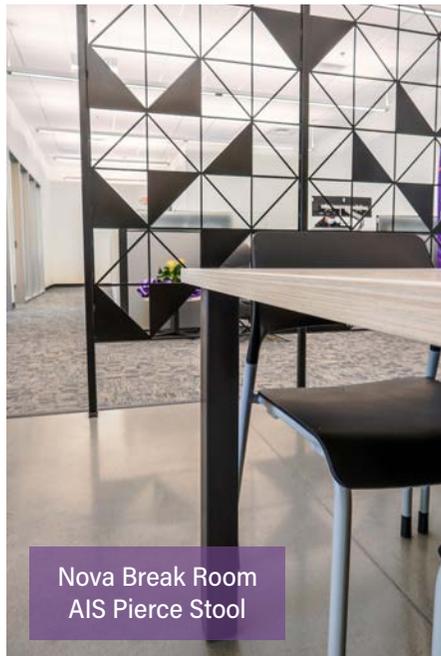
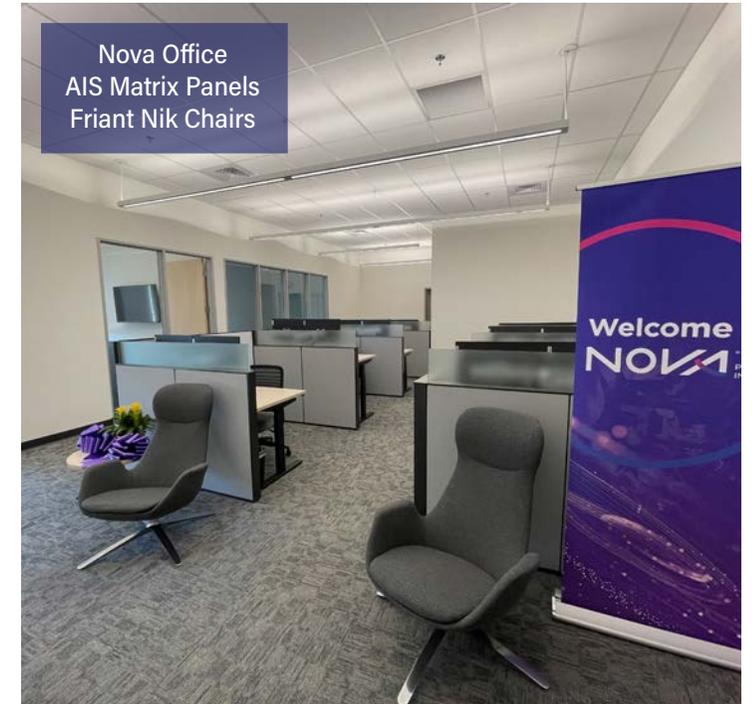
The now completed office boasts two conference rooms, workstations made for collaboration, a kitchen table that doubles as an informal meeting place, and lounge chairs for casual conversations. Tying it all back to the look and feel of the headquarters are various cool colors and a unique metal panel. Now, the local application and service team have a place to meet together and bounce around ideas, create new opportunities, and improve the service to their customers. "Our teams are constantly working for our customers and trying to solve problems, so seeing them at our ribbon-cutting ceremony, claiming their

new home, choosing where they would sit, and chit-chatting in that area gave me a warm feeling. I know it's been a long time coming, and I could already see that being in the space was lifting their morale and creating a sense of family and a sense of team." - Manny Balcita.

**Keeping A Promise**

This office is a dream come true for the Boise team. When Haokun joined Nova, the team asked him when they were going to have their new office. He told them they would have it by the end of the year. That promise was very important to him and the company's mindset toward its customers.

"When we make a promise, we will make it happen. This office is a symbol of Nova making the commitment to our long-term partnership with our customers."



## Trends In Technology

Work looks different than it did a few years ago when employees were practically nailed to their desks at the office. That is not the case anymore. Today we are experiencing a radical change in how we work, and it all has to do with flexibility. Woven tightly into the fabric of this newfound flexibility is technology. Our ability to incorporate technology into our private and professional lives has given us incredible freedom. Lets dive into some of the ways Pivot North Architecture is doing just that.



Allison Furlan  
Senior Interior Designer  
Pivot North Architecture

### Communal Spaces

Senior Designer at Pivot North Architecture, Allison Furlan, has seen many changes in how her firm designs multifamily, condos, and apartment buildings, and a lot of it revolves around technology.

"With more remote workers and "digital nomads" than ever, creating co-working or communal spaces in residential buildings has increased." - Allison Furlan

They are even starting to design built-in desks in individual units. However, no co-working environment is complete without plugins. "We are seeing a lot more outlets in general and convenience outlets. They are no longer your standard duplex outlets; they have USB ports and more." There is also an increase in outlets floating on the floor and built into furniture because people plug in multiple devices to work.

### Wi-Fi & Smart Systems

Fiber high-speed internet is making its way into these buildings to support all the devices. However, laptops and phones are not the only devices coming online. Wi-Fi-enabled appliances and security systems are also new to these buildings. "We are seeing a trend toward controlling your fridge, lights, even door access with your phone. We are trying to predict and then design for what life is going to look like in five or ten years."

### Mailrooms, Lockers, Fitness & Parking

Other notable changes to these buildings include requests for larger mailrooms. People are ordering so many items online that there isn't enough room to receive everything. New offerings like Amazon and Tide lockers are becoming sought-after amenities where residents can pick up all their packages and even their freshly dry-cleaned clothes without stepping a foot outside. Expanded fitness centers with on-demand services, bike parking, and Evie charging stations for electric cars are growing in popularity. "I feel like there has been a shift with technology and sustainability, and it is good to see developers using these efficient products even though they are more expensive upfront."

## Trends In Space

Many organizations are experiencing a hybrid model in their offices, while others are learning they no longer need to occupy a physical workspace to be successful. This new trend is something that Office Evolution has seen coming for years. Lets hear what they have to say about these unique workspaces.



Anabel Lopez | Melissa Brodt  
Owner | Business Center Manager  
Office Evolution

### Office Memberships

Three-year-old Office Evolution in downtown Boise knows something about flexibility as well. The company lives and breathes creating exceptional office spaces for hybrid or small business clients. Startups that don't want to sign a long-term lease in a building or companies with hybrid or remote employees can get a membership with Office Evolution (OE). Companies can get customizable spaces, access to co-working spaces, conference rooms, and more through the different membership options. The key to the membership is flexibility.

### Wi-Fi & Power

Creating an office for a flexible workplace is not easy without great technology. That is why OE started by getting one gigabyte of symmetric Wi-F to make their connection nothing but fast.

### Privacy, Ergonomics, & Gathering Spaces

Another highly used item in their space is a soundproof phone booth. In a co-working business lounge, members get important calls, but they don't have a confidential space to talk. With the soundproof booth, clients have the privacy they need when they need it. That space is now being used not only for calls but also for virtual meetings. Additionally, with a new workspace center coming soon in Eagle, OE will be incorporating larger gathering spaces, micro-offices, and dedicated workspaces into the floorplan. By adding these high demand spaces into the Eagle location, it will allow OE to serve remote workers, business owners on a budget, and the growing need for individual workspaces and ever-changing needs for teams and companies looking for ways to collaborate and work more effectively.

### Staying Flexible

As Boise grows, startups are popping up, big businesses are moving into town, employees are traveling, and companies are hiring for remote positions. Each of these clients can utilize a flexible office environment. One place Business Center Manager, Mellissa Brodt, has seen a particular need for flexibility is in remote work.

"I've seen employers hiring remote positions more frequently, and while the job is great, people are finding out that the home doesn't suit their needs."

- Melissa Brodt

"Here, a company can secure a space for a team gathering, away from home client meeting, or remote employee." No matter the company's situation, the most important thing for them to do is remain flexible. That will allow them to meet the needs of their employees and grow where they need to go.

# The Stars of Hybrid Technology

Three technology solutions giving power back to employees.

In the last couple of years, the way we work has changed dramatically, and work from home solutions have become center stage. However temperamental some of these leading solutions were, they kept the show going and have become a part of the new way we do business. But the show is changing as employees once again fill their office seats. The new rising stars of Hybrid technology are emerging with the motto "Empower the team, not the tech." Let's meet some of these Hybrid stars.



## Virtual Meeting Software

Perhaps the most widely known and favorite of the work-from-home era solutions are software programs like Zoom and Microsoft Teams. These, and platforms like them, have allowed us to connect with clients, coworkers, family, and friends over the last couple of years when we could not meet in person. They have been so instrumental in our new work styles that they are now an integral part of how we conduct business in the office and at home. When you can't make a large company meeting in person, you can jump on Teams. Want a quality connection with a client? Hop on Zoom. From now on, you will see successful offices investing in technology that enable easy access to this software from anywhere, at any time.



## Room Reservation

In Hybrid offices, flexibility is a buzzword. It refers not only to the physical space employees inhabit but also their schedules. With employees occupying office space at different times or days of the week, ensuring they have what they need is critical to their productivity. Room and desk reservation systems play an essential role in empowering employees to easily find and reserve a place to work in an office with shared workplaces. An employee coming in for an important meeting can reserve a room to collaborate with team members ahead of time. After the meeting, the employee can reserve a desk for heads-down work rather than going home to a distracting environment. These two reservation systems blend the physical office with digital booking technology to accommodate that all-important flexibility.



## Mobile Power

With great power comes great flexibility. Working wherever you want is great until you need to plug in a device and there is no outlet in sight. A great solution to this problem is a freestanding power outlet designed to lay nicely underneath the carpet. This simple system provides power to any space – whether in a café or classroom – allowing under-utilized real estate to work harder. With single circuit and dual circuit technology, power can be distributed throughout ancillary and conference space or even power larger applications. Flexible power systems are making their way into commercial spaces to put the power back into your hands, literally.

# BOISE HUNTER HOMES



Left To Right  
Travis Hunter, Jim Hunter,  
Cody Hunter

## Building Fantastic Communities

Boise Hunter Homes (BHH) is dedicated to building quality homes in fantastic communities, and its new office in Eagle is helping them do it. Founded in 2007 by Jim and Jan Hunter, BHH started as a custom home builder with a handful of employees and has grown into a large-scale land developer and community builder. Today the Hunters are joined by their two sons, Travis and Cody, and have around sixty employees. BHH has experienced substantial growth over the last two years. With the effects of Covid encouraging people to move to Idaho, BHH has grown to keep up with demand.

## All Under One Roof

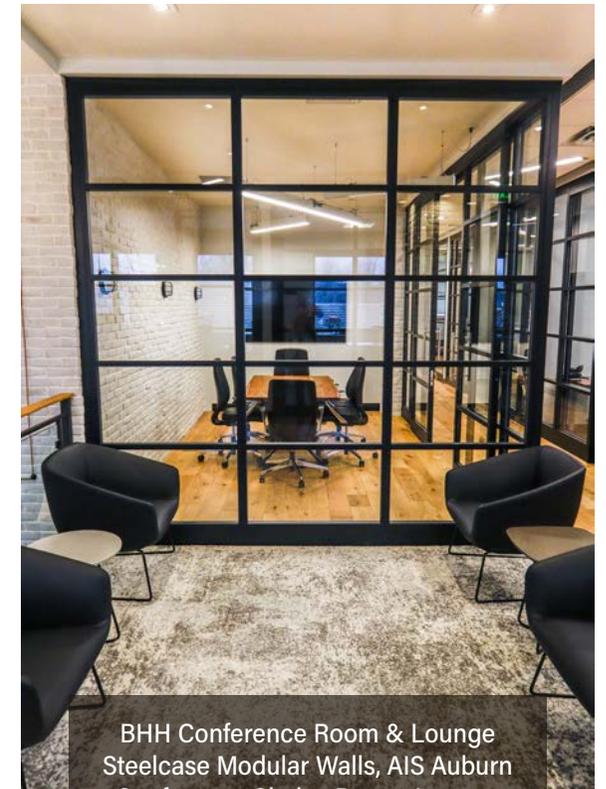
The new office is the fourth location BHH has had in the Eagle River Development. At one point, the company had space in three different buildings, which made coordinating schedules a logistical nightmare. While many businesses chose to vacate the office at the onset of Covid, BHH doubled down and decided to get an even bigger office. The collaborative nature of their work made it essential for them to get everyone under the same roof. Rather than build, they jumped on the chance to purchase their new building when it came up for sale. Things got even better when they found out OEC did the previous TI and could help reconfigure the space so that everyone got a great office. "Michelle (OEC Workplace Consultant) understood our vision and helped us execute it. From the design and TI's to the furnishings, it was a one-stop-shop." - Travis Hunter.

## An Open Atmosphere

The two-story building is designed circularly, with offices rimming the exterior walls. By using Steelcase modular architectural walls, the offices remain private while also allowing light into the core of the building.

Seeing people's faces is a big part of our culture. So much of what we do is face-to-face with employees and outside consultants. The whole environment is very welcoming, and our staff loves it."

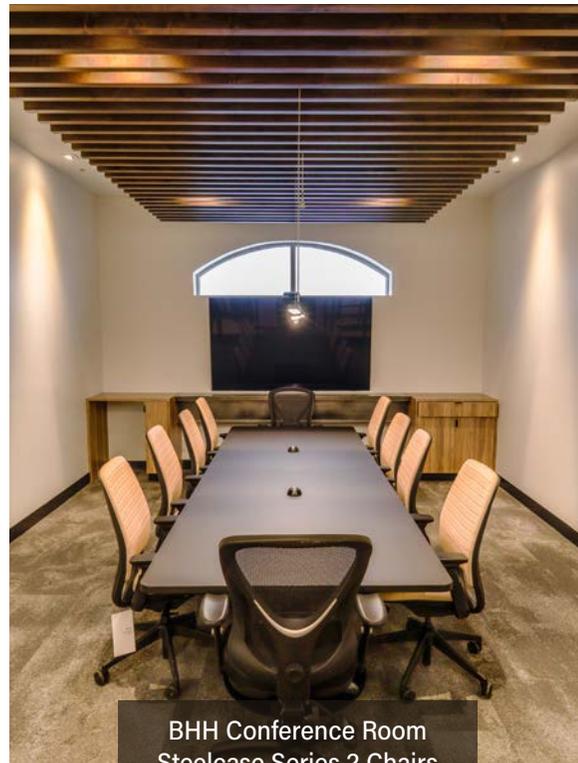
- Randi Meredith, BHH CFO



BHH Conference Room & Lounge  
Steelcase Modular Walls, AIS Auburn  
Conference Chairs, Bryant Lounge  
Chairs from ERG International

### Cradle To Grave Development

It is important that the staff loves the space because they have a lot of work to do in it. Developing communities involves taking a project from the cradle to the grave. BHH buys land, entitles it, develops and designs communities, then offers several different house plans to build. What they offer their customers is an all-inclusive financing option. Rather than buying the land then separately financing the build, BHH's customers put down earnest money on a lot and close on the finished home with a conventional loan. Not only is this easier for customers, but when they give their earnest money, the price of their home project is locked-in regardless of price increases.



BHH Conference Room  
Steelcase Series 2 Chairs  
Steelcase Groupwork Table

### Delivering On Lifestyle

However, BHH recommends itself in other ways too. "We want to build fantastic communities that provide the lifestyle people are looking for. They are not just buying a home; they are buying into a community. We pride ourselves in our amenities like organic produce, walking trails, pools, basketball courts, and more. The amenities are a driving reason why people live here. We want to deliver communities with the exact lifestyle people are looking for and houses that meet all of their wants and needs." -Travis Hunter.

### Working With Cities

Creating these fantastic communities requires working well with different cities and municipalities.

"One of the best parts of our job is working with cities. It is really fun to be a part of helping the town grow in a positive way. We aren't a national or even regional company. We live and breathe the treasure valley. We have planted our roots here, and we love helping the town grow in the right way." - Travis Hunter.

### Working With Family

It is no wonder that BHH focuses on creating great communities for families when it is a family-run business. "Working with my family is really fun. We often spend more time with our coworkers than we do with our family, so when you work with family, it helps you invest in those relationships more. We can rely on each other's strengths and diversify our work." - Travis Hunter. With great working relationships, a beautiful new office, and plenty of work on the horizon, Boise Hunter Homes is looking forward to growing with the community for decades to come.

### CH445 | Wing Chair

The CH445 Wing Chair is a high-backed, upholstered armchair with a stainless steel frame. Hans J. Wegner's expertise for sculpted design and demand for quality craftsmanship is clearly expressed in this dramatic looking chair.



## Cubb Seating By Orangebox

Cubb's singularity of form creates an elemental chair with a clear personality, delivering robust functionality for any environment. Its innovative contemporary aesthetic extends over seven design typologies, making it suitable for specification through multiple applications in both hospitality and office environments.



Boise Hunter Homes  
Eagle, ID  
Conference Room

We create amazing spaces  
where employees love to work



[www.oecworks.com](http://www.oecworks.com)