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## Herman Miller's SAYL Chair Earns Inaugural Core77 Design Award

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**Contact** Mark Schurman (616) 654 5498 or mark\_schurman@hermanmiller.com  
**Address** Herman Miller, Inc., 855 East Main Avenue, PO Box 302, Zeeland, MI 49464-0302  
**Internet** www.hermanmiller.com

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Herman Miller, Inc., with Yves Béhar and [fuseproject](#), were winners of the 2011 [Core77 Design Awards](#) in the "Furniture and Lighting—Professional Designer" category for their [SAYL™](#) family of seating. This marks the inaugural year for the award, "which celebrates the richness of the design profession and its practitioners, and provides designers a unique opportunity to communicate the intent, rigor and passion behind their efforts."

Dedicated jury teams from around the globe gathered in eight countries to judge the 15 categories of design practice highlighted by Core77, ranging from packaging and service design to transportation and furniture/lighting. The furniture and lighting category was judged by five independent experts from various backgrounds, including a design commentator, furniture designer, and a design historian. The results were announced via live Web broadcasts.

"We looked at functionality, commercial application, use of materials, sustainability and numerous other criteria," said Max Fraser, Jury Captain for the Furniture and Lighting category. "This office chair [SAYL] shown out in the category as being totally considered, comprehensively researched, and elegantly resolved. Congratulations to Yves, his team, and of course Herman Miller for such a worthy introduction."

According to the judges, while designs recognized with an 'honorable mention' in the category were solid products, the SAYL chair was a notch above.

**HermanMiller** "We had no runner up for the category simply because we didn't feel any submissions came close to the quality of the winner," said Fraser. "The chair looks comfortable,

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ergonomic and reassuring, and we felt it would fit into both the home office as well as commercial office interiors. Furthermore, the Cradle to Cradle credentials of the chair seemed to seal the vote.”

“We believe SAYL sets a new reference point in work seating for performance and sustainability at a remarkably attainable price,” said Peggy Kelly, Herman Miller’s Director North American Seating. “This award, coupled with earlier accolades for SAYL, encourages us to continue to push boundaries as leaders in forward-thinking design.”

SAYL is the first chair with a 3D Intelligent™ suspension back. This full-suspension back is literally frameless, offering no hard edges. Freed from a rigid exterior frame, the back suspends and supports much like the Golden Gate suspension bridge it was inspired by, while allowing the chair to adapt to a person’s unique shape and movement. The SAYL Chair has received multiple awards including the 2011 Treehugger.com “Best of Green Readers’ Choice award in the Design and Architecture category, 2010 Product Design of the Year in the International Design Awards (IDA), and a 2011 IDSA Silver International Design Excellence Award (IDEA) in the Office and Productivity category.

**About Herman Miller, Inc.**

Herman Miller works for a better world around you—with inventive designs, technologies and related services that improve the human experience wherever people work, heal, learn, and live. Its curiosity, ingenuity, and design excellence create award-winning products and services, resulting in more than \$1.6 billion in revenue in fiscal 2011. Innovative business practices and a commitment to social responsibility have also established Herman Miller as a recognized global company. In 2011, Herman Miller again received the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Foundation’s top rating in its annual Corporate Equality Index and was also cited by FORTUNE as the “Most Admired” company in the contract furniture industry. Herman Miller trades on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol MLHR.