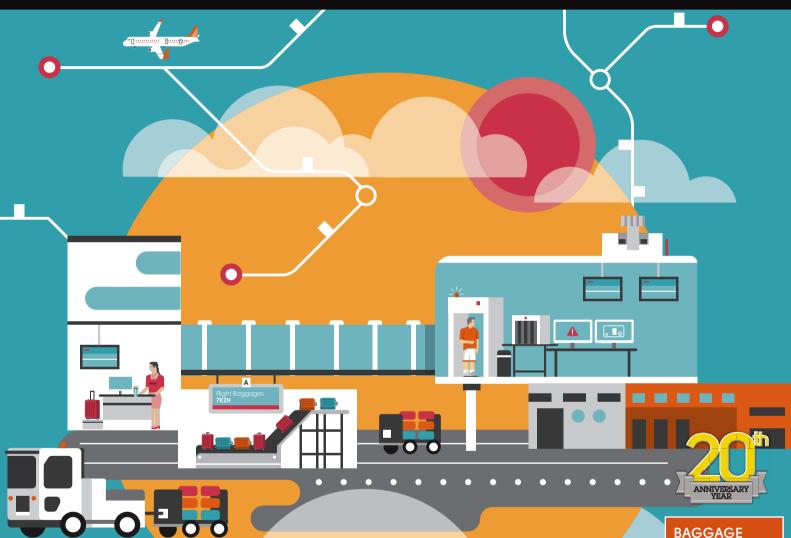
PASSENGER TERMINALVORLD



Silver lining

Cloud computing can help airports slash operational costs and reduce overheads, freeing up cash to invest in the passenger experience

ASSET MANAGEMENT

How building information modeling can help improve operations

BAGGAGE HANDLING

The do-it-yourself approach is taking over the baggage drop-off process

DESIGN CHALLENGE

The winner of the 2014 seating competition is revealed!

DESIGN CHALLENGE 2014 45

DESIGNER: Nicolás Vitale and Pablo Szelagowski, architects, GTA-GIAI, University of La Plata

COUNTRY: Argentina
DESIGN NAME: A(i)rmchair

A(i)rmchair is designed for passenger terminal economy class lounges and provides the comfort needed for long waits. The comfort provided by airplane seats, which are sometimes used for a shorter duration than those in the airport, is extrapolated to the terminal seat, providing passengers with space for relaxation, connectivity, energy charge, secure hand luggage storage and entertainment; it is a "fully serviced landscape".

The extendable seat refers to Archigram's Cushicle and Log-plug, and can be used as a conventional seat or chaise longue. The seat is designed to be arranged in a series, but with single armchair comfort.

The chair becomes an armchair due to the moving side and seat sections. It includes unfolding

support tables, touchscreens with information about flights and destinations, a reading light, ports for USB, AC and sound, all of which are available for purchase via an electronic device or credit card. The space under the seat allows for the safe storage of standard-sized hand luggage when sleeping. The back bar provides structural rigidity, connectivity and power to the seats.

Using recycled materials and standard parts from aircraft seats reduces the cost, and this ensures the durability of the system. The seats can be placed freely in lounges – only fixed by their power connection. This design changes the concept of the waiting room seat; A(i)rmchair is much more a refuge of comfort and safety than a single row of seats.

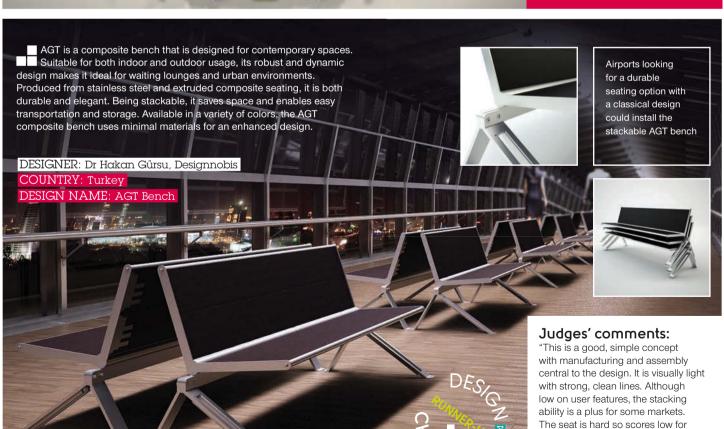




Judges' comments:

"This seat looks comfortable and gives the passenger a wide range of options while waiting for the departure. The retreating aspect is very important for passengers nowadays. This seat fulfills most of the passenger's requirements. The use of luggage to support the reclining part is very interesting but may raise the question of stability owing to the different sizes of suitcases." Pascal Berberat





comfort; however, the design can be used outside, which could increase marketability." **Paul Williams**