

Experience a Story that Extends from the Past to the Future at Kokuyo's Shinagawa SST Live Office



The over 4,800 square-meter floor of the Shinagawa SST Live Office mostly consists of flexible, open spaces. Each themed area presents different working styles and visions for office spaces. (Photos courtesy of: KOKUYO Co., Ltd.)

Are you familiar with Kokuyo's Live Offices across Japan? Well known as a major stationery manufacturer that isn't limited to "things" such as stationery and office furniture, Kokuyo devotes its efforts to proposing new ways of working through office spaces. The ground-breaking Live Office initiative demonstrates how Kokuyo employees work, and demonstrates how offices can resolve various work style-related challenges. Kokuyo started about 50 years ago and today there are 28 Live Offices across Japan in locations such as Kasumigaseki, Umeda, and Nagoya.



The Shinagawa SST Live Office was established in October 2017, when several offices that were scattered across Tokyo were moved and integrated in this location. Mr.

Kazuharu Ishii of Kokuyo, who worked on the new office design, said, “With this move, the president asked that we create an office where it is possible to experience Kokuyo’s future vision and how the stationery and furniture divisions have been brought together.” To fulfill this request, the entrance space concept is, “One stroke. No loop. No end.” The entire space dynamically expresses continual growth toward the future using a single, thick line. Starting with 150-millimeter mosaic tiles on the floor, the shape made of Corian® Solid Surface changes throughout while linking the benches, tables, and displays, ending with a connection to the roof. This design embodies Kokuyo’s past, present, and future.

Mr. Takahiro Kondo of the Furniture Business Department showed us around the office. According to him, “Our business started from a single sheet of paper, then we began making furniture such as cabinets for holding account books. This office expresses our history of business expansion, beyond Stationery and furniture sales and into building ‘spaces.’”



The “Storying” made from Corian® seems to be floating in space. This sense is created with legs made from mirrored stainless steel that reflect the floor tiles.

The centerpiece of the design is the single line made of Corian® Solid Surface that leads to the future, named, “Storying.” “This means that a new story has been created and will continue on. It evokes a string, which symbolizes a single line,” said Mr. Ishii. When asked why they chose Corian® Solid Surface, he replied, “This design is linked with the surface material from the floor to ceiling, which meant we needed a material with joints that wouldn’t stand out. We envisioned using it for the benches and tables, so we prioritized the warmth and feel when people touch the material. Corian® has a uniquely gentle feel

that blends well with spaces and is comfortable on human skin. We put it in the center of the design for a soft finish, ensuring that the overall entrance impression isn't overly futuristic.”

More information about Kokuyo's Live Offices

Submitter: Kanoko Ishida
Corian® Color(s): Corian® Cameo White
Applications: Office
Design By: Mr. Kazuharu Ishii of Kokuyo

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