

THE PRODUCT PUBLICATION OF THE U.S. ARCHITECTURAL MARKET

# Architectural PRODUCTS

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SPECIAL ISSUE

**PIA'14**

product innovation awards



## 4th Annual Awards Issue

It takes a lot of products to make a great building. Fortunately, there are a lot of great new products that can help, and this year's PIA winners include many of the best, be they for heat gain-resistant glass, insulation tucked in the form of spandrel panels, or curtainwalls created to cut thermal bridging.





## PIA PRIMER

# A User's Guide to the 2014 Edition of the Product Innovation Awards



## Welcome to the Product Innovation Awards.

Now in its fourth season, the PIAs may be routine for some, but as our subscription base grows, others may be new to the competition, leaving me to ponder how best to introduce this annual feature...

The competition is inspired by two forces at play year-round: the product manufacturers who continually research and develop new products in their respective market segments, and our readers who perpetually seek the best solutions in the built environment. With a focus on bringing innovators to the forefront, the competition asks manufacturers to present their best products to a jury of knowledgeable critics.

We ask architects, engineers and experts familiar with taking products to task to solve day-to-day design dilemmas to evaluate the entries. We look forward to sharing your contemporaries' expert insights, and live quotes captured from the judging process appear in the awards issue—it's like being in the jury's collective mind.

Our intrepid design department treats you to a visual feast when perusing the pages of the Product Innovation Awards, making navigating everything from building envelop to surfaces to HVAC and energy management self explanatory. Each page represents a category's fresh and innovative product selection represented with exquisite art accompanied by clear, concise text.

Finally, the end of the section features Products in Application Award winners and our Industry Leadership Awards—hats off to them, and all of our winners, for setting the pace for the year to come.

Cheers to innovation,

Megan Mazzocco, Senior Editor

## JUDGES

**VILMA BARR**  
Barr Publications  
Veteran lighting writer for *Architectural SSL*

**PAUL BIONDOLLO**  
Mulvaney G2  
Senior Associate

**BOB BORSON**  
Malone Maxwell Borson Architects,  
Principal and Author, *lifeofanarchitect.com*

**RYAN BROCKETT**  
Ten Over Studio  
Architect

**NANCY J. CARTLEDGE**  
Jones Lang LaSalle  
Vice President, Project and Development Services

**JANE CAMERON**  
Perkins+Will  
Associate Principal

**ED CLARK**  
ZGF  
Sustainable Strategist

**DONALD CHONG**  
Williamson Chong  
Partner

**CINDY COGIL**  
Smith Group  
Sr. Mechanical Engineer

**CECELIA CONOVER**  
Studio Conover  
Owner/Partner

**DAVE CONOVER**  
Studio Conover  
Owner/Partner

**DARIN DAGUANO**  
SmithGroup  
Principal

**SUSAN GROSSINGER**  
HOK  
Senior Vice President  
Director HOK Product Design

**BARBARA HORWITZ-BENNETT**  
Award-winning journalist and regular contributor

**JOHN HOPKINS**  
IA Interior Architects  
Design Director

**EMILY HOOPER**  
IA Interior Architects  
Director of Social Media Marketing

**SCOTT KELSEY, FAIA**  
CO Architects  
Managing Principal

**SCOTT KNUDSON**  
Wiencek + Assocs.  
Vice President

**JACKIE KOO**  
Jackie Koo and Assocs.  
President

**KAREN LETTENY**  
RMW Architecture & Interiors  
Studio Director-Interiors Associate

**LIRA LUIS**  
Atelier Lira Luis  
Principal

**JOHN MESENBRINK**  
*Architectural Products*, *Net Zero Buildings*  
Contributing Editor

**CHARLES LINN, FAIA**  
University of Kansas  
Director of Communications, School of Architecture,  
Design+Planning

**JENNIFER MCGREGOR**  
Legat Architects  
Vice President, Interiors + Business Strategy

**ARPI NALBANDIAN**  
Tileometry  
Founder

**JANE RATH**  
SMP Architects  
Principal

**CHUCK ROSS**  
Veteran architecture and design writer  
and regular contributor

**CONNIE SAMLA**  
Sacramento Municipal Utility District  
Lighting Specialist

**DANE SANDERS**  
Clanton Assocs.  
Principal Lighting Designer

**AMY SHAVELSON**  
Wingate Houghes Architects  
Sr. Project Designer

**BILL VAN ERP, SR.**  
Gensler  
Associate Resource Librarian

**ALAN WEIS**  
*Architectural Products*, *Net Zero Buildings*  
Contributing Writer

**KEVIN WILLMORTH**  
Owner, Lumenique and Tasca; Editor, *Architectural SSL*

## BUILDING CATEGORIES

- Building Envelope
- Building Systems
- Controls + Components
- Doors + Hardware
- Elevators + Conveyance
- Furnishings
- Glazing/Openings
- HVAC
- Lighting + Electrical
- Masonry + Concrete
- Restroom Products
- Plumbing Fixtures
- Solar Control + Generation
- Surfaces
- Structural
- Thermal/Moisture Protection
- Woods, Plastics + Composites
- Products in Application
- Industry Leadership





## 4th Annual Awards Issue

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## RESTROOM PRODUCTS + PLUMBING FIXTURES

### KWC ONO Touch Light PRO

#### 1 Hand Me the Remote

Bringing the remote control to the kitchen, users can decide where to place the mixer to control water flow and temperature. With its universal design, this wireless control feature makes the faucet highly accessible and easy to operate. **Judges said:** "Decoupling the spout from the mixer is a creative and practical design solution." [www.kwc.com](http://www.kwc.com), Circle 519

### KOHLER San Souci Touchless Toilet

#### 2 No-Touch Wonder

Providing touchless technology for residential and light commercial facilities, the San Souci toilet leverages an advanced sensing technology using an electromagnetic field. EPA WaterSense certified, the toilet uses only 1.28 gallons per flush. **Judges said:** "I understand that this technology is available as an easy to install kit, converting a conventional flushometer to a sensor-activated flush." [www.us.kohler.com](http://www.us.kohler.com), Circle 518

### THG-PARIS Beyond Crystal Faucet

#### 3 Crystal Clear

Who says crystal is only for vases and jewelry? THG's Beyond Crystal collection, created in collaboration with Baccarat, leverages the beauty of natural crystal to produce a stunning bath fitting. Available in deep red, aquamarine, vivid blue, champagne and clear crystal, specifiers can also incorporate dimmable LED lighting to produce a beautiful glow. [www.thgusa.com](http://www.thgusa.com), Circle 517

### MGS TAPS CB Semi Exposed Thermostatic Shower System

#### 4 Exposed!

The CB Semi Exposed Thermostatic Shower System is both functional and striking. Made from 100% solid stainless steel for enhanced durability, each piece is hand finished prior to assembly, so that every joint and edge is smooth. **Judges said:** "Cleverly utilizing the behind-the-wall plumbing as a design element." [www.mgstaps.com](http://www.mgstaps.com), Circle 516

### VICTORIA + ALBERT Amiata Bathtub

#### 5 Thermal Insulating Bathtub

With natural thermal insulation properties, the Amiata's volcanic limestone composition better preserves the hot bath water, thereby making the soaker tub more water- and energy-efficient. **Judges said:** "The tub's composition is an innovative application of a thermal insulating material to reduce hot water consumption." [www.vandabath.com](http://www.vandabath.com), Circle 515

### KOHLER Tailored Vanity Collection

#### 6 Custom Designed

By following Kohler's four-step process, designers and owners can choose the vanity's exterior style, size, configuration and wood finish; select the interior's accessories, integrated electric outlets, storage trays and dividers, adjustable shelves and roll-out drawers; choose the top material, size, shape and color; and select coordinating components such as finish-matched mirrored solutions, sconces, hardware, bridges and lap drawers. **Judges said:** "A neat customization aspect." [www.us.kohler.com](http://www.us.kohler.com), Circle 514