



Life Sciences

Industry on the Rise



Today's world and its challenges means a prioritization of population health and with that shift comes clear focus on the Life Science industry. With a mix of technical research space and more typical administration areas, Life Science is currently challenged

with creating balance. But not only that, with growth that can be unpredictable in both scale and timing, purposefully adaptable space planning must be explored in a whole new way.

Adapt to the Unkown

As the life sciences industry evolves and adapts, one of the greatest challenges will come from the need to scale organizations seemingly overnight. Although lab space grew from 17 million to 29 million square feet from 2009 to 2019, funding and support continues to be in flux. When a project is approved that will add researchers and/or physical space, the need to adapt is immediate. Investing in options that allow for flexibility and evolving needs allows for changes within the workplace as-needed.



29 Million

In 2019 lab space in the United States grew to 29 million square feet.



TREND: FLEXIBLE SPACE

Flexible systems and benching solutions allow for quick adaptation, both when large-scale changes are needed within the environment--such as utilizing a kit-of-parts to create a new collaborative space for a team--and small day-to-day accommodations between users and uses.

Life science teams are known for their deeply focused work, so features like height-adjustability and allowing for different postures not only help an individual user's personal health and wellness, but can make it so that one piece of furniture can accommodate different people.

Alone Together

Separation doesn't mean isolation. The future of life sciences sees the need for personal space without sequestering individuals away out of sight, out of mind. While research requires intense focus and need for acoustical separation - particularly when sensitive information is being shared - teams are finding ways of working together even while sitting in their individual workspaces. In addition there is value in proximity and visibility of team members when working to collaborate and solve complex problems.



40%

According to recent data 40% of employees surveyed reported feeling isolated in the workplace



TREND: CONNECTED FOCUS

Walls are no longer permanent. By using demountable walls that don't need to be permanently anchored to the floor or ceiling, spaces can adapt as quickly as the furniture in them to meet current needs. Opaque, translucent glass, and user-movable privacy tiles provide visual unity for a team, helping individuals feel more connected to one another and making it easier to see whether a coworker is available.

What's more: separation doesn't need to have a physical barrier. Facing furniture in opposite directions, utilizing freestanding partitions, and creating zones differentiated by color, product types, heights, or use allows for the allusion of space without the need for floor-to-ceiling solutions.

Research-Based Workspace

Because of the ways in which work is changing and with the advancements in the technology used to do research, the future of laboratory work sees the boundaries between research and other workspaces beginning to blend. While these spaces used to be delineated, the

move to 'new science' means that laboratory work is now more frequently being done alongside web-based research and administrative tasks, meaning interiors need to work for all tasks that may arise as well as the differences between individuals in differing departments.





54%

Percentage of life science sales between 2017 and 2022 to be driven by New Science.



TREND: A MOVABLE APPROACH

Movable furniture supports the flexibility to adapt to changing work activities and tasks. And because storage is moving from heavy, archival units to small, lightweight cubbies and drawers, workspaces no longer need to orbit around wherever things are being stored.

Relaxed Productivity

It used to be that people ate lunch at their desk so that they could keep working, but the future of offices is one where you have the option to work in the employee lounge or the cafe instead. The employee lounge has evolved a lot over the years to become another collaboration space that offers

users a more laid back environment. Whether a quick water-cooler chat becomes a brainstorming session or a quiet moment away from the desk is needed to unwind and recollect oneself, these lounges are increasingly becoming the Swiss Army Knife of office spaces.





22%

22% of information sharing occurs during small talks in the aisle or at coffee break within life science research teams.



TREND: CHANGE OF SCENERY, NOT PACE

Casual, comfortable seating and a variety of surfaces from slide-up laptop tables to bar-height benching give users the ability to relax and unwind, work on solo tasks away from their workstation, or participate in impromptu meetings. More and more, the traditional employee

lounge is transitioning towards becoming a hub of calming inspiration and creative ideation. And with user movable furniture, these spaces can also easily accommodate social distancing norms as they change and adjust.

Connected Support

Today's young talent want flexibility in the workspace - even within the life science world. Attracting and retaining the best-in-class means designing spaces that encourage collaboration amongst team members to foster knowledge sharing and mentorship as well as offer a wide range of work settings to support individual work preferences.





20%

Experts are anticipating an average increase to days worked from home post-pandemic from 5% to 20%.



TREND: IDEATION MAXIMIZED

Dynamic and adaptable. When any place can become a work space, creativity and problem solving skills are able to flourish. Multi-purpose whiteboards provide writable surfaces where needed for brainstorming sessions, ancillary seating accommodates solo heads-down work or team touchdown spots, and tabletops that can be adjusted to the user's needs will continue to grow in popularity as they become staples in flexible workplaces. What's more: increasing built-in mobile tech not only appeals to a younger generation of employees, but keeps teams connected whether they're meeting face-to-face or in hybrid virtual video chats.

Organizational Strength, Global Impact



As an industry with a hand in the health and safety of our global population, it is highly critical to encourage and support the best work of the teams involved. Thoughtful planning, flexible solutions, and innovative partnerships create the right landscape to allow each employee/scientist/administrator to produce their best result.

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