

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Coalesse® Launches the LessThanFive™ Chair**

*Lightweight carbon fiber stacking chair combines materiality with technology through 21<sup>st</sup> century craft*

**San Francisco, CA** – Technology has revolutionized the workplace, creating an increasingly connected world and a need for flexible, functional, and inspirational environments that support great work. Coalesse is addressing this need by developing insight-led, design-driven products that can be customized to engage a multi-generational workforce with a diversity of work styles.

Focused on drawing people into the workplace with environments that foster social connection and creative collaboration, Coalesse has launched the LessThanFive™ chair. An object of extraordinary craftsmanship, the lightweight stacking chair designed by the Coalesse Design Group and Hong Kong-based designer Michael Young is fabricated entirely from carbon fiber – a new medium in the furniture industry and one of the strongest and lightest materials available.

The LessThanFive chair is assembled and finished by hand from molded and heated layers of carbon fiber. The chair's sleek design draws people in, challenging structural perceptions and surprising users with its delightfully light-weight frame. Weighing less than five pounds, as the name suggests, the mono-material design supports a variety of users and makes reconfiguring social and collaborative spaces effortless. Easily moved, it can stack up to four chairs high for convenient storage.

A specially designed, intuitive visualization tool invites members of the A&D community to participate in the design process by applying custom colors, graphics, and logos to personalize the chair. It is also available in six standard colors and finishes, including Matte Blue, Red Fade, Light Fade, Dark Fade, Copper Gloss, and Carbon Weave.

“We wanted to explore the boundaries of design using cutting-edge technology and materials that redefine craft in the new age of global manufacturing,” said John Hamilton, Director of Design at Coalesse. “Working with world-class design talent and the world’s best carbon fiber craftsman helped us to engineer a solution of lasting value that expresses something very efficient, optimized, and smart.”

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Michael Young added: “The chair’s structure and form was developed as a result of working with a factory that is a worldwide leader in producing state-of-the-art, high-performance bicycles and car parts. This technology is ideal for the development of an exceedingly lightweight stacking chair.”

The LessThanFive chair’s customizable, clean-lined design supports a modern, flexible work environment that allows users to easily reconfigure their surroundings. Beautiful, functional, and brilliantly innovative, LessThanFive invites you to pull up an extra seat at the table for an experience that is anything but ordinary.

For more information on Coalesse and its products, visit [www.coalesse.com](http://www.coalesse.com).

***Bringing New Life to Work™***

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**About Michael Young**

Michael Young is one of the leading international figures in his field, known for his elegant, pared-down design aesthetic. Since forming his studio, he has designed for revered retailers and institutions such as the Conran Shop and Pompidou Center. After a decade working across his native UK and Iceland, Young was enticed to Asia by his passion for pioneering technology. In 2006, he set up a studio in Hong Kong, which today is considered to be one of the most exciting and formidable design companies operating in Asia. The studio specializes in creating modern design through technology, harnessing some of the highest and most innovative manufacturing skills to create award-winning designs that last a lifetime.

**About Coalesse**

Coalesse collaborates with design professionals around the world, to help leading organizations create great workplaces that inspire great work. Led by insight and driven by design, Coalesse furnishings create welcoming destinations to improve social connection, creative collaboration, focus and rejuvenation. As part of the Steelcase Inc. family of brands, our solutions are globally accessible through architects and designers and over 800 dealers. Learn more at [www.coalesse.com](http://www.coalesse.com).

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