

Kitchen Fitouts and Trends

Article by Philip Ashley

Feature



It's not news that the kitchen has become the hub of any home, especially in a new construction where it can be more fully integrated into the building. Its design and the functions it includes add to the value of the home and satisfies the needs and desires of human activity.

In February this year the Housing Industry Association announced that Australia is set to commence construction on a million new homes over the next five years, or 200,000 every year. Add to that the scope for renovations and we have the background for the annual \$11+ billion kitchen and bathroom sector of the residential construction industry.



The design of any kitchen is a significant factor in the desirability and livability of any residential space, and manufacturers look not only to produce a physical design that meets their customers' needs and wants, but to include the latest technological features and benefits designed to influence the purchasers' decision regarding the livability and functionality of their investment.



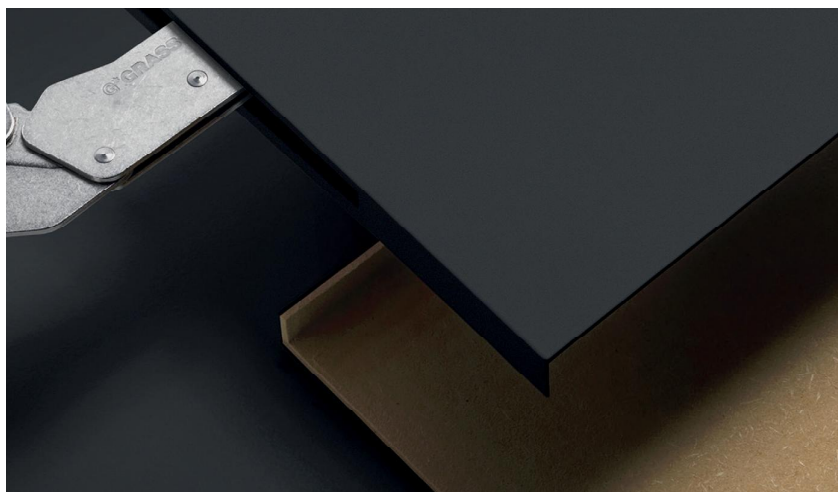
To see what the latest kitchen design trends are, we approached five highly qualified industry suppliers and influencers who contributed to this article. Dave Woods is product manager at Grass. Laura Hedges is Specification Representative for SURTECO Australia. Gary Cahoon is Head of Marketing for Häfele Australia. Jesse Staines is General Manager at Kitchen King (Hideaway Bins, New Zealand), and Rebecca Hedley is Marketing Manager at Titus Tekform.

Less is More

The design trend toward minimalism will remain on-trend in Australian kitchens. Clean lines and smooth finishes will remain popular choices. Handle-less cabinetry and hidden storage solutions will contribute to the streamlined aesthetic. Dave Woods says, “Industrial design trends shift towards optimisation of space and concealment”, something the Grass Kinvaro Slim hinge does very well. Australian homeowners will call for flexible kitchen designs that effortlessly transition from a cooking space to a work or dining area, or maybe a social space for entertaining.

Technology

The changes in kitchen technology are driven by the arrival of the Internet of Things (IoT), which refers to everyday household devices that can collect and share data through the internet. We should look forward to the seamless integration of advanced technology,



Above: Grass Kinvaro hinge

including smart appliances, voice-activated assistants, automated lighting, and smart refrigerators. According to reports as long as five years ago, the average Australian home had 17.1 connected devices in 2018, up from 13.7 in 2017. In this digital age, kitchen manufacturers are beginning to integrate technology seamlessly into their products.

Some innovations are charging stations for handheld devices, and appliances controlled by an app such as a coffee machine. Why not provide a beverage station as a go-to destination in the kitchen that could include coffee bars with built-in coffee makers, wet bars, and smoothie stations? Last year at Interzum in Germany, Titus Products



Above: Surteco edges



As an increasing number of councils demand a more focused approach to what goes into recycling, the ability to separate waste hygienically is becoming more important. A professional waste management system for kitchens is becoming a key element in the design of any modern kitchen.

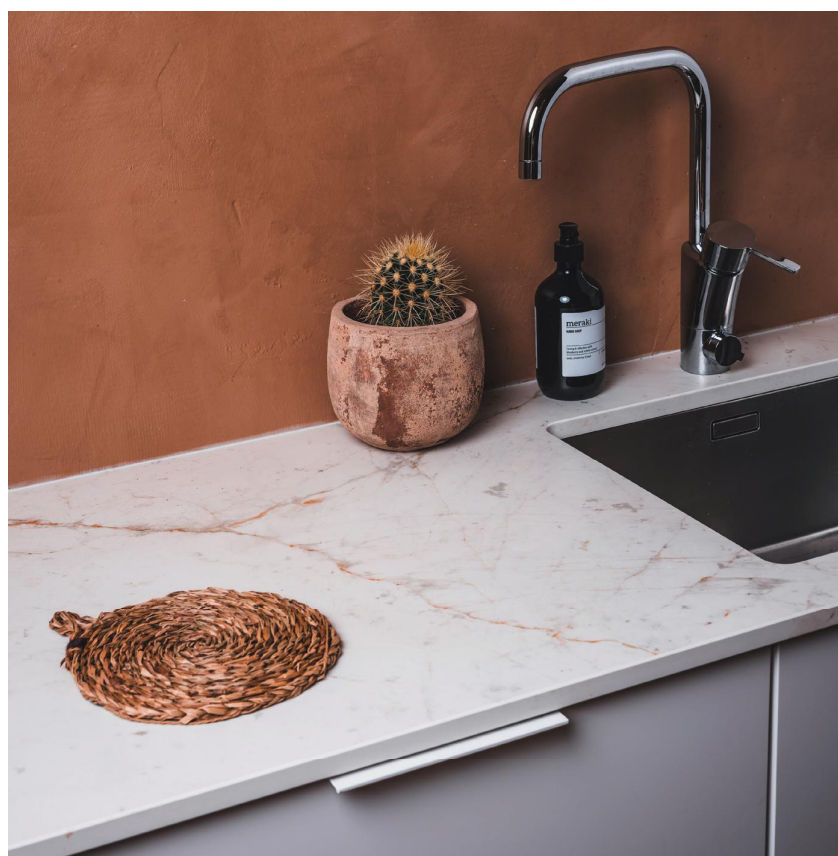
Jesse Staines said, “A waste bin is one of the most used appliances in the kitchen, it will have a huge impact of how much waste is recycled or composted. A typical bin in a family kitchen will handle over 2 tons of waste every year. It makes sense to choose a bin system that is up to the challenge. The Concelo waste bins from Hideaway Bins are designed to make recycling easy, handling up to 4 types of waste in one convenient unit, and with colour coding to make sure waste, recycling and compost goes into the right bin.”

Above: Hideaway Bins

launched a damper designed for cold environments such as freezers, refrigerators, and wine coolers. This damper has been proven to perform reliably in temperatures as low as -30°C, maintaining consistent damping performance in all conditions.

Sustainability

Sustainability is no longer just a trend. As concerns about biodiversity loss and pollution increase, businesses commit to sustainable goals such as reducing environmental footprints and conserving resources. Dave Woods says, “The topic of 100% recyclability is becoming a reality.” Laura Hedges commented, “SURTECO has always been focused on manufacturing locally and sustainably. We have achieved a Greenguard Gold Standard on our ABS edge, meaning products have been manufactured to have low chemical emissions and contribute to healthier indoor air.”





Aesthetics

Aesthetics is a concept that deals with a particular taste for; or approach to what is pleasing to the senses and especially sight. Leading designers predict that warm woods and natural colours such as “calming blues and fresh greens” will make a major

comeback this year. Laura Hedges said, “Current trends in the decorative finishes industry include softer and warmer colours that allow for a more biophilia, the human tendency to connect with nature. Using earthy tones brings the natural energy of outdoors into your space.”

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Aesthetic lighting is another design feature and trend that heightens an object or atmosphere to make it more interesting and appealing. Gary Cahoon said, “Our Loox lighting system from Hafele transforms the static form of joinery into a dynamic piece of furniture. Loox lighting enhances cabinet design to create different scenes and atmospheres in all rooms of the house and can all be controlled with or without with the latest Connect Mesh App 2.0

Australian kitchen design trends are inspired by a unique blend of cultural influences, climate considerations, and lifestyle preferences. There is an increasing emphasis on minimalism, sustainability, the integration of technology, and the desire for functional yet visually pleasing spaces. One thing is certain, the modern kitchen has never been more alive, more functional, or more in touch with the demands, needs and desires of modern-day Australia. ■



Above: Hafele Loox

Nova Pro One - a newcomer with special features

For a number of years, GRASS has been at the forefront of system designs that promote quality and production efficiency. Their strategic direction moving forward is one of consolidation and simplification. It is common practice that different drawer systems, from a single manufacturer, have different cutting and drilling requirements.

GRASS are the game changers; their objective is to reduce complexity by diversifying their product offer using the same platform.

Nova Pro One is the latest drawer system to be released by GRASS Austria. Continuing with the GRASS philosophy of simplicity and efficiency, Nova Pro One shares the same cutting and drilling specifications as the premium Nova Pro Scala system.

Whilst Nova Pro Scala is well positioned in the luxury segment, GRASS identified that many customers valued quality European products, but required a drawer with a better price position. From this Nova Pro One was born.



Nova Pro One can be used with either a 30kg or 40kg Nova Pro runner, and the product offer is reduced in complexity to capitalise on production efficiencies, thus reducing production costs.

The little brother of Nova Pro Scala is the new number one when it comes to a compact range, performance proven millions of times over and maximum differentiation.

Nova Pro One is a pure metal drawer side, without plastic elements. All components are connected to each other using the latest laser welding technology.

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Features include exceptionally easy opening, excellent running characteristics, minimum drawer deflection and outstanding reliability. In addition, Nova Pro One can be combined with soft-close, all opening systems and Tavinea interior accessories.



The fact that you can use Nova Pro One both with and without the branding clip makes everyday life easier in many ways. This small detail provides more flexibility and also creates another option for differentiation.

One of the primary benefits to manufacturer is that they can seamlessly switch between project work and luxury work without any changes to their workflow processes. Furthermore, all complimentary accessories are shared; for example, all front fixings, internal fronts, and gallery rails are the same for both One and Scala – so there are enormous benefits in reducing total stock on hand.

Nova Pro One will be available in Australia from Mid-2024.

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Nova Pro One.



The little brother of Nova Pro Scala is the new number 1 when it comes to a compact range, performance proven millions of times over and maximum differentiation. Exceptionally easy opening, excellent running characteristics, minimum drawer deflection and outstanding reliability. Nova Pro One is a newcomer with special features. A product range that is designed to work optimally together means no other drawer system offers more options for reducing complexity. Therefore, Nova Pro One is the ideal entry into the Nova Pro universe.



Portaline – Your ultimate solution for DIY projects

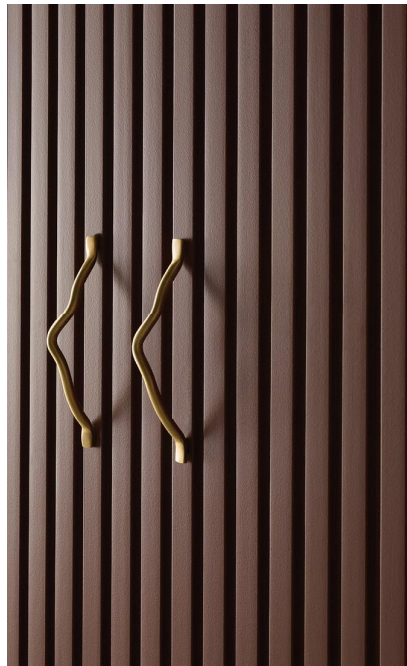
Revamping your space with a dash of sophistication and a whole lot of character has never been smoother. The team at Porta are over the moon to introduce you to their latest lining boards - the Portaline range. Tailor-made for the Aussie DIY enthusiast, this range is all about making DIY not just doable but downright enjoyable, without cutting corners on quality or style.

Imagine a DIY range that is designed with your home in mind, where every piece is a conversation starter, and every project is a pathway to expressing your unique style. That's what Portaline is all about. It is their newest collection, crafted specifically for the interiors of your dreams, making sure that from the living room to the bedroom, your space gets the uplift it deserves with minimal fuss.



Portaline is the embodiment of simplicity and elegance. Their ready-to-paint Primed FJ Pine products are not just easy on the

wallet; they are a breeze to install. Whether it's giving your kitchen a facelift or adding a touch of elegance to your furniture or living areas, these lightweight solutions are perfect for the job. And it's not just about looks; Porta's commitment to the environment means each piece is as sustainable as it is stylish, letting you beautify your home guilt-free.



But what sets Portaline apart is its versatility. The Primed FJ Pine, with its matte white finish, is like a blank canvas waiting for your creative touch, ready to be transformed with a splash of paint. And with five different profiles to mix and match, the design possibilities are endless. Even more, their innovative curved wall beads make adding sophisticated curves and arcs to your design project easier than ever before.

The team at Porta know that DIY projects are more than just a hobby; they are a labour of love. That's why their Portaline range

is designed to be incredibly user-friendly, perfect for solo projects across a variety of surfaces. Whether you are a seasoned pro or just starting out, achieving a professional finish is a breeze.



At Porta, they are not just about making beautiful products; they are about making a difference. Their Primed FJ Pine is sustainably sourced, carrying the FSC certification, so when you choose Portaline, you are choosing a product that is good for your home and the planet.

So, are you ready to dive into your next DIY adventure? With Portaline, you are not just upgrading your space; you are unlocking a world of creativity and style. It's time to bring those dream projects to life and elevate your home with Portaline.

For more information about Porta's products, visit their website.

🌐 www.porta.com.au ■



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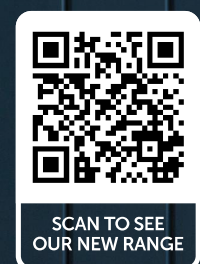
Portaline is your ultimate solution for DIY home projects

Designed specifically for the practical DIYer, Portaline makes it simple to transform any space, easily achieving professional-looking results.

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Metal and magnetic magic with Surteco

Surteco Australia's custom fusion of innovation, creativity, generations of experience, and deep understanding of modern surface technology results in a comprehensive offering that displays the brand's ongoing pursuit of perfection – and makes Surteco Australia the ultimate destination for industry professionals looking for consistency in their projects across both edge and surface.

As experts in creative design and technologically advanced surfaces and finishes, Surteco Australia develop new ideas and products that move people and make trends come alive. This constant pursuit of design excellence helps Surteco Australia remain on the forefront of new design trends which can be seen in two new offerings: the Deko Metal range of surfaces and beautifully matched edges, and Dekodur Magnetic writable surfaces.

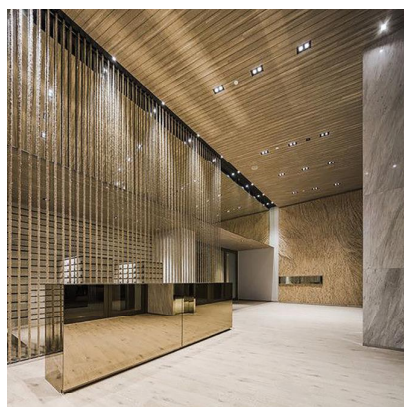


Made with real metals, these gorgeous colours and tactile finishes make a dramatic statement and will leave a lasting impression. The Deko metal range also has matching edgebands available for the brushed range of surfaces. Perfectly match these edges with a



Deko Metal brushed surface application or feature a dramatic contrasting edge design when paired with a more subtle decor. The design options for the range are extensive and inspiring.

The sophisticated collection of Deko Metal surfaces is available in two finishes; brushed and mirror and five luxurious colours as part of their stock collection. Deko Metal edges are available in 23mm wide by 1mm thick and there are five luxurious colours available to order: Brushed Bronze, Brushed Copper,



Brushed Gold, Brushed Titanium, and Brushed Silver.

Dekodur Magnetic writable surfaces are an innovative gloss surface that is extremely magnetic, functions as a whiteboard whilst aesthetically displaying a refined minimalism. Dekodur Magnetic writable surfaces are easy to clean and suitable for projection walls. The product has an enamel layer with a double coating that ensures a scratch-proof and non-porous writing surface and is available in gloss white in sheet sizes of 2440mm x 1220mm and 3050mm x 1220mm.



Deko Metals and Magnetic laminates are stocked in Sydney, with a lead time of approximately two days. For more information, please email the customer service team at Surteco Australia - info@au.surteco.com

www.surteco.com/au



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SURTECO Australia

Introducing Hawa Concepta III hardware systems

Hawa's new Concepta III features a unique and revolutionary designed mechanism that allows it to pivot then slide in, as well as a pivot/fold option slide in, depending on the user's preference and space availability. This innovative design was recognised by a panel of experts and a group of consumers who evaluated the product based on its functionality, ease of use, benefits, and aesthetics. They praised the product for its versatility, convenience, value, and style, awarding Concepta III the Kitchen Innovation Award for 2024 – Best of the Best category for kitchen furniture and equipment.

With the Hawa Concepta III Pivot/Sliding door fittings, you can create custom spaces for your kitchen, wardrobe, or home office. These doors can be adjusted to fit any cabinet size, from half-height to full-height, or even walk-in. They also offer a sleek and seamless look when closed, hiding the contents of your cabinet from view.

Whether you want to store your dishes, clothes, or work materials, the Hawa Concepta III door fittings can help you achieve a stylish and functional design.



With Hafele's new Push to Open option coming in June 2024, even handles are optional. The intelligent technology with its ergonomic movement support makes it possible to move the doors out of the pocket by gently pushing them and to close the whole front with a light tap.

Hawa Concepta III is designed to be simple in every way. You can install it quickly and easily, with minimal tools and effort. You can also adjust it in no time, thanks to the convenient

access points. This is the result of listening to the feedback of users, architects, planners, and fabricators, who helped the team at Hafele create the next generation of Hawa Concepta.



Reliably tested for 40,000 cycles which is equivalent to approximately 25 years of average service life, ease of installation in under 8 minutes with only 12 screws, intuitive adjustment with easily accessible adjustment tools and opening and closing with very little effort, the all New Concepta III is the perfect hardware choice for pivot/sliding pocket doors.

🌐 www.hafele.com.au ■



HAWA CONCEPTA III

The new HAWA Concepta III family with its wide range of variation options can provide an individual solution for any space situation. Kitchens are easy to conceal and design using the pivot and folding/slide-in hardware.

HAWA Concepta III has the complete package, with Push to Open options available from June 2024.

Key Advantages:

- Design flexibility, with or without handles.
- Functional design with movement assistance – Push to Open.
- Assemble and install in under 8 minutes with just 12 screws.
- Flush fitting design.
- Easy adjustment, saving time on site.

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SCAN ME

Hideaway Bins achieve Global GreenTag certification

Hideaway Bins are delighted to have achieved Global GreenTag GreenRate Level C certification for their Hideaway Compact Bins, Concelo waste bins and Concelo laundry hampers. It's an important milestone for their business and customers - a mark of credibility and responsibility, showcasing a solid commitment to sustainability.

What is Global GreenTag?

Global GreenTag is an independent, third-party assessment, certification and eco-labelling body that complies under strict International Standards to evaluate products for their ethical, health and environmental attributes. The organisation provides certified product information to help consumers, architects and builders discern between product claims when looking for products with reduced environmental impact, so they can make informed choices.

Having a Global GreenTag certification means that you can be sure that any claims about environmental impact and sustainability by a brand are legitimate, and that the product has been rated on multiple aspects of environmental responsibility.



What is GreenRate?

One of the primary advantages of GreenRate certification lies in its comprehensive approach. It evaluates products holistically, considering factors like material sourcing, manufacturing processes, durability, and end-of-life disposal. This multi-faceted assessment ensures that certified products meet stringent environmental standards throughout their lifecycle.

Furthermore, the GreenRate certification isn't just about environmental impact; it also prioritises human health and social responsibility. By scrutinising details such as

indoor air quality, chemical emissions, and the potential health hazards of materials used, it ensures that the certified products contribute positively to the spaces they inhabit and the people using them. It also includes other criteria like local sourcing, ethical labour and supply chain sourcing.



Where is GreenRate recognised?

The GreenRate program was built specifically to work within the Green Star rating tools in New Zealand and Australia. This means that Hideaway products may be eligible for credits in GreenStar projects.

To learn more, visit hideawaybins.com.au/sustainability or contact one of Hideaway's distribution partners – Hafele, Galvin Hardware or Nover.

🌐 www.hideawaybins.com.au ■

RECYCLING MADE EASY!

CONCELO® CR600 4-IN-1 WASTE BINS

The new Concelo CR600 models make it easy to separate rubbish into four waste and recycling buckets in one convenient unit. Available in six different models, they fit into a standard 600mm wide kitchen cabinet and have up to 64 litres of total capacity.

COLOURED LINER HOLDERS

Create a simple, sustainable waste management system at home or in the office with the new colour coded Hideaway liner holders - compatible with Hideaway 13L, 15L, 16L, 20L and 35L buckets.

Mix and match the colours to suit your local collection services.

Available from Nover, Häfele and Galvin Hardware.

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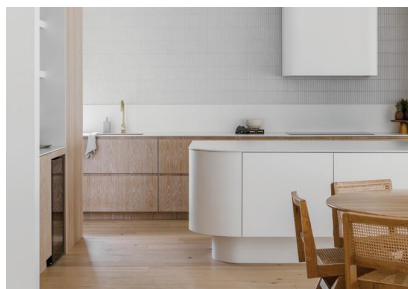
BY HIDEAWAY

Groundbreaking silica-free surfaces by Neolith

Neolith, a global leader in the architectural stone surface industry, is set to release a groundbreaking new silica-free surface in mid-2024, fortifying its stance as a long-standing sustainability pioneer. This innovative new product line is devoid of crystalline silica, with the first colours in the new formulation set to be Artic White and Abu Dhabi White in a 20mm thickness.



By eliminating crystalline silica entirely, Neolith aims to close the circle encompassing the entire value chain, prioritising the wellbeing of everyone involved in the material handling and manufacturing process, and safeguarding the most important element: people. With this bold step forward in innovation and prevention, Neolith is poised to offer a product that sets new standards of sustainability and safety. This move not only demonstrates Neolith's dedication to pushing boundaries, but also reflects its deep-rooted commitment to environmental responsibility and advancing industry standards.



Neolith has maintained a historic commitment to the environment with stringent safety standards, exemplified by its current production practices. In addition, certain colour variants already incorporate up to 98% recycled raw materials, while all surfaces are 100% recyclable and manufactured in carbon-neutral conditions.

Unlike conventional quartz-based surfaces, Neolith undergoes a unique manufacturing process that involves subjecting natural raw materials to high heat and pressure, resulting in a sintered compact surface. This proprietary approach places Neolith in a category of its own, promising a distinctive and pioneering choice for a variety of applications.

In alignment with its commitment to unparalleled service excellence and environmental conservation, Neolith meticulously selects premium raw materials such as clays and kaolin. This careful selection mirrors the composition of coveted materials like marble and natural stone, positioning Neolith at the forefront of sustainable products. This not only ensures superior quality, but underscores Neolith's dedication to creating surfaces that stand out in terms of both performance and environmental responsibility.

Neolith surfaces are also manufactured in a way that is gentle on the earth. At Neolith's

production plant, 100% of the electricity used comes from renewable sources, all water used is recycled, and more than 96% of its industrial waste is recycled or reused. The Neolith plant is also carbon-neutral in all its main scopes. Evidence of this lies in its recently obtained Bureau Veritas 'Zero Waste' Excellent certification and EcoVadis Gold certification, which place Neolith in the 98th percentile of the industry and corroborate that it operates under environmental, social, sustainable procurement, corporate governance and ethics standards of excellence.

In a landscape where environmental responsibility is paramount, companies like Neolith, championing objectives aligned with a lower environmental impact, are integral to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development goals. Neolith actively promotes sustainability in its processes and materials and proudly participates as a member of the UN Global Compact Spain construction and engineering sector working group, actively seeking to integrate sustainability into their operational ethos.



Neolith already has two operational distribution hubs in Australia (Sydney and Melbourne), with material readily available and the newest generation of Neolith silica-free surfaces shipping soon, ensuring a constant and accessible offer for Australian designers and homeowners. ■



NEW Folding Door Systems



Create more effective space solutions with the Hideaway and BiFold folding door systems

Titus has launched two new folding door systems - the set F450 BiFold with added height adjustment and soft close, and the retractable P700 Hideaway system.

- + Ideal for hiding laundries, office spaces and wardrobe areas
- + Up to 30kg weight capacity per door
- + Space-saving design works on narrow door widths from 18mm to 25mm
- Integrated soft close damping

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