

Steelcase to Acquire Education Leader Smith System

Smith System is an industry leader in the pre-K-12 education market.

Steelcase today announced it has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Smith System Manufacturing Company. The Texas-based company manufactures high quality furniture for the pre-K-12 education market designed to inspire better learning and improve outcomes for students. The acquisition is expected to give customers easy access to more choices for pre-K-12 solutions by extending Smith Systems’ reach through authorized Steelcase dealers, in addition to the existing Smith System dealer network.

“As education markets continue to grow, the combination of Steelcase and Smith System will create incredible value for our customers,” said Allan Smith, vice president of global marketing at Steelcase. “Together, we can help schools create outstanding learning environments where students thrive, such as collaboration spaces, makerspaces and tech labs.”

Founded in 1905, Smith System makes educational environments more healthy, comfortable and inspiring for students and educators. Smith System will operate as an independent subsidiary under its own brand, and will continue to support its strong network of existing dealers as well as extending its reach through authorized Steelcase dealers.

“We believe that joining forces with Steelcase offers us a path to accelerate long-term growth, while maintaining the agility that has made us successful,” said Charles Risdall, president of Smith System. “Steelcase and Smith System have complementary offerings and we look forward to growing our business together in pre-K-12, higher education and corporate learning environments around the globe.”

The acquisition of Smith System allows Steelcase to provide solutions for all the spaces where learning happens from pre-K-12, to higher education, to the workplace. It’s also expected to add to a growing Steelcase portfolio offering customers easy access to a broad range of innovative solutions for education, healthcare and the workplace.

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