

# the business end ●

It's been quite a while since we last brought you news and views from our friends at Unwired, but we're delighted to welcome them back to the Mix Fold as we review their groundbreaking and fascinating Exploring Innovation event.



Unwired held the hugely successful Exploring Innovation event at the RCA's Henry Moore Gallery last month, attracting over 200 senior workplace professional delegates.

The event's aim was to help delegates keep one step ahead by not only educating, but by inspiring with new ways of thinking about the workplace. A total of 28 exhibitors were keen to share their ideas and innovations with visitors, and these included global giants Microsoft, Sony Ericsson, Bose and Vodafone, as well as leading interior product manufacturers Milliken, Bene and Colebrook Bosson Saunders.

In the true sense of the word, Exploring Innovation explored the latest innovations for the workplace from both established innovators such as Microsoft and Bene, and the new breed of innovators from the RCA and Imperial College.

From Furniture to technologies, from fabrics to facilities management solutions, this year's show continued to be highly interactive for workplace professionals involved in the future of work, the workplace, real estate, technology and innovation. Following the great success of the inaugural Exploring Innovation event in 2008,

this year's event was moved to coincide with the London Design Festival. Delegates were given a unique opportunity to be exposed to early-stage innovation that will impact work and the workplace.

The focus was on new and emerging technologies that will change how and where work is done. Attendees were able to touch and feel new technology, and discuss impacts with leading commentators, manufacturers, developers and designers.

In an era which predicts the death of paper and the demise of distance; connectivity, communication and collaboration are key for the workplace professional. Faced with multiple challenges to rationalise office space, this year's exhibitors were chosen to inspire future workplace plans.

The tour took delegates on a journey through themed pods where they were exposed to new ideas and innovations. The journey began at the relaxation area, just after registration. All the furniture here, and in the pods, was provided by Bene. Delegates were even given a sneak preview of some of the new PARCS range – which was, of course, officially launched earlier this month ●

