

Media contact: <u>KBIS@sharpthink.com</u> KBIS Media Registration: <u>Press Service Center</u>

# KBIS 2024 Marks 60th Anniversary with Record-Breaking Exhibitors and Attendance

With Exponential Growth from 2023, KBIS Continues to Attract New and International Exhibitors



(LAS VEGAS, Nev.) — March 7, 2024 — The <u>Kitchen & Bath Industry Show</u> (KBIS), owned by the National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA) and produced by Emerald Expositions, reached record-breaking exhibitors and attendance for its 60th Anniversary.

"I am amazed at how much this show continues to grow; not just in sheer numbers but also in depth of influence and impact," said **Bill Darcy, Global President & CEO of NKBA | KBIS**. "The level of innovation that brands bring to the show floor, from smart technology integration to sustainable manufacturing and beautiful design, is unparalleled. The move by brands to create products that are sustainable, beautiful and innovative can be felt throughout every hall of KBIS."

"We experienced strong registration growth compared to previous years and we are up 40 percent in seeing new exhibitors for 2024," said **Jason McGraw, Group Vice President, Emerald Expositions**. "This year, we had over 260 new exhibitors at KBIS, a 40 percent increase compared to last year, and over 117,000 registered visitors showed up to Design & Construction Week to see the best the industry has to offer."

Exhibitors felt the show's growth through steady booth visitors and energized crowds. "We have been coming to KBIS for 40 years, and we're really excited about the attendees this year," said **Jeff O'Sullivan**, **Senior Marketing Strategist of Häfele America Co**. "A lot of energy around the space and the volume of people coming out and the excitement around the show is really perhaps at a peak."

Added **Bill Strang**, **President of Corporate Strategy**, **E-commerce**, **and Retail Business for TOTO**. "KBIS this year has been very exciting. The activity and level of engagement that we had from so many people provided a great opportunity. We're very happy to be at KBIS and continue to support the NKBA."

Attendees didn't just turn out in numbers, but in quality. **Karen Olle, Director of Marketing for SMEG** commented, "Everybody's very engaged and interested. A big takeaway from this year's show has been the quality of the attendees."

For a full breakdown of KBIS 2024 numbers, please reference the Final Figures press release <u>here</u>. Next year, KBIS and DCW will be held **February 25 – 27, 2025**, in Las Vegas at the **Las Vegas Convention Center**.

Noteworthy industry trends emerged or were affirmed, including wellness, sustainability, smart technology, and personalization. For standouts at the show, see KBIS 2024 Highlights below.



# KBIS 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

#### **NEXTStage**

KBIS 2024 welcomed industry giants, design legends, and rising stars for audiences on the NEXTStage hosted by **Michel Smith Boyd**, **Julee Ireland**, and **Alena Capra**, CMKBD. Attendees listened to leaders such as **Mick De Giulio**, **Christopher Peacock**, and **Richard T Anuszkiewicz**, on Day One to discuss the business side of design. Over three days, more than 50 experts, including **Martyn Lawrence Bullard**, **Suzanne Kasler**, **Matthew Quinn**, **Lew Oliver**, **Shelly Rosenberg**, and **LuAnn Nigara** took part in 15 panels, Disruptor Presentations, and Visionaries, Innovators & Icon Talks in four key tracks – **Wellness**, **Sustainability sponsored by Moen**, **Business & Trends sponsored by Monogram**, and **Technology sponsored by Emtek** – discussing the latest industry research and trends, overcoming business challenges, and the hottest topics in design. The stage saw a large spike in attendance with standing room only crowds and robust Q&A sessions with the audience, showing a heightened interest in learning and engagement at KBIS 2024.



To close out the NEXTStage, **Bill Darcy**, Global President & CEO of NKBA | KBIS and **Suzie Williford**, Chief Global Relations Officer of NKBA | KBIS raised a glass to celebrate six decades of KBIS. **Brian Pagel**, Executive Vice President, Residential and Commercial Connections, Emerald, joined the pair on stage and all relived memories from KBIS past. Ferguson generously donated gifts as onlookers got in on the action with live trivia.



#### LUXURY Lounge

KBIS debuted the **LUXURY Lounge** at the 2024 show sponsored by **HomeThreads**, creating a space to explore the definition of luxury, especially as it relates to kitchen and bath. The inaugural program presented eight panels (each sponsored by a different brand; **HomeThreads**, **Bertazzoni**, **Forte**, **Danver**, **Lutron**, **NKBA**, and **Kohler**) —several of which were standing room only—and a book signing, offering compelling insight from designers, journalists, and thought leaders.



#### **NKBA Global Connect at KBIS**

"The international draw at KBIS continues to grow," said **Bill Darcy, Global President & CEO of NKBA | KBIS.** "We had a 35 percent increase in international exhibitors compared to last year, a number we're thrilled to see as our **Global Connect** program helps bring innovative international brands to the North American market." Meanwhile, the **International Pavilions – Germany, the United Kingdom, and Brazil** – maintained a strong connection between designers and the vast world of products that they specify, while the **Delegation Program** and **Global Connect Lounge Programming and Kiosks** expanded the breadth of international representation to New Zealand, Ukraine, Spain and beyond.



# KBIS Uncorked

Signature Kitchen Suite (SKS) once again hosted **Uncorked**, the hallmark influencer event at KBIS, where guests enjoyed a curated tasting experience. **Helen Cho, Senior Director of Marketing, Signature Kitchen Suite & LG Pro Builders** commented, "What I'm so excited about is to see all the new faces at KBIS. Whether you're a designer, builder or architect, I don't think I've ever seen so many people with diverse backgrounds from all across the US coming together in support of our industry." During the event, **Veronika Miller**, Founder of the Designhounds Influencer Network, spoke with **Nick Ritchie**, SKS Executive Chef, and a panel of design professionals about what it means to design for people, rather than just spaces.

# **Awards Programs**



#### Best Booth Awards | Press Release here

Judged by **Rose Dostal**, Architect and Principal Designer at RMD Designs LLC; **Michael Menn**, Architect and Principal at Michael Menn Limited; **Sharon Sherman**, Founder and Owner of Thyme and Place Design; and **Meredith Weiss**, President of Merri Interiors, Inc., the **Best Booth Awards Winners** are:

Best of Show Booth Winner: Kohler

Best Booth Small Winner: LAPITEC

Best Booth Medium Winner: **TECHLAM** 

Best Booth Large Winner: House of Rohl

Best Booth Honorable Mention: Caesarstone



# Best of KBIS Awards | Press Release here

Sponsored by *LUXE Interiors & Design* and judged by **Arianne Bellizaire**, Owner and Principal Designer, Arianne Bellizaire Interiors; **Nar Bustamante**, Founder and Principal Designer, Nar Design Group; **Swati Goorha**, Principal, Swati Goorha Designs; **Lisa Peck**, CEO and Principal, LiLu Interiors; **Elizabeth Scruggs**, General Contractor and Principal Designer, Superior Construction and Design, the **Best of KBIS 2024 Awards Winners** are:

# Best in Show: FreePower for Countertop by FreePower

Style Statement: Kitchen – Gold: Professional Series 48" Induction Range in Carbonio by Bertazzoni

Style Statement: Kitchen – Silver: Viking RVL Collection by Viking Range, LLC

Style Statement: Bath – Gold: Wall-Mounted Tub Filler by Tenzo Fine Plomberie

Style Statement: Bath – Silver: **Venezia by Venini by Fantini** 

Game-Changing Innovation – Gold: Luxury 30 in. SlimTech<sup>™</sup> Insulation Column Refrigerator by JennAir®

> Game-Changing Innovation – Silver: Novy Light Pro by Novy

Most Functional Find – Gold: **REVEGO by Blum Inc.** 

Most Functional Find – Silver: HydroTap Celsius All-in-One Plus with Pull-Down Sprayer by Zip Water

> Sustainable Standout – Gold: RainStick Lite by RainStick

Sustainable Standout – Silver: Transcendence by Kohler WasteLAB x Nada Debs by Kohler

Wellness Trailblazer – Gold: SpaViva Two-Function Handshower and All-in-One Cleansing Device by Kohler

> Wellness Trailblazer – Silver: M6A Water Purifier by FOTILE



DesignBites on NEXTStage | Press Release here

Judged by **Danielle Blundell**, Executive Home Director at Apartment Therapy; **John McClain**, CEO and Creative Director at John McClain Design; and **Sandra Dlaz-Velasco**, Principal Architect at Eolo A&I Design, the **DesignBites Winners** are:

Brand with the Biggest Bite: FGI Industries Flush Guard™ by FGI Industries

People's Pick: FreePower for Countertop by FreePower



KBIS Kickstarter Awards | Press Release here

Judged by **Maria Stapperfenne**, CMKBD, Manager and Designer, Tewksbury Kitchen & Bath; **Ebony Stephenson**, CLIPP, CAPS, Owner and Principal Designer, Designs by Ebony, LLC; and **Lorenzo Marquez**, Former Chairman of NKBA, President and CEO, Marqet Group, LLC, the **Kickstarter Grand Prize Winner and Finalists are:** 

Grand Prize Winner: Paneluxe

Finalists: sproos! and Qoldfusion

# Press Images:

Images from the show are downloadable here. All images are provided courtesy of Emerald.

# About National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA|KBIS) and the Kitchen & Bath Industry Show (KBIS)

NKBA | KBIS is the not-for-profit trade association that owns the Kitchen & Bath Industry Show® (KBIS). With nearly 50,000 members in all segments of the kitchen and bath industry, NKBA | KBIS has informed, educated and supported the industry since the association was founded in 1963. The association's mission is to inspire, lead and empower the kitchen and bath industry through community, professional certification and learning, and events.

For more information, go to NKBA.org or call 1-800-THE-NKBA (843-6522).

NKBA® and KBIS® are registered trademarks of the National Kitchen & Bath Association.

#### **About Emerald**

KBIS is produced by Emerald. Emerald's talented and experienced team grows our customers' businesses 365 days a year through connections, content, and commerce. We expand connections that drive new business opportunities, product discovery, and relationships with over 140 annual events, matchmaking, and lead-gen services. We create content to ensure that our customers are on the cutting edge of their industries and are continually developing their skills. And we power commerce through efficient year-round buying and selling. We do all this by seamlessly integrating in-person and digital platforms and channels. Emerald is immersed in the industries we serve and committed to supporting the communities in which we operate. As true partners, we create experiences that inspire, amaze, and deliver breakthrough results. For more information, please visit: www.emeraldx.com

###