

Project Location
 2-1-1 Marunouchi
 Chiyoda-ku
 Tokyo

Client
 Linklaters:
 Ms. Hisako Yamamoto

Design
 CDI Aoyama Studio:
 Mr. Benjamin Warner
 Hiroyuki Yoshikawa
 Yoshimori Watanabe
 Midori Matsueda

Schiavello Japan
 David Ellis
 Hideki Uchida

1_Spacious work areas with Elitone desking system with System 45, two + three drawer metal pedestals for support staff.
 2_Corner offices designed for functionality + privilege. Elitone desking with Victorian Ash veneer overhead storage.
 3_Private offices featuring Elitone desking with System 55 removable panel to separate work spaces to accommodate two or three people.

Area
 2808 m²

Products
 Elitone desking system with System 45, two + three drawer metal pedestals to open work areas. Elitone desking, pedestals, two-drawer file units, and function wall to offices with overhead storage in Victorian Ash veneer.



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3





CONSOLIDATING CULTURES

Located on the 10th floor of the new Meiji Yasuda building in the centre of Tokyo is home to Linklaters, Japan's first fully-merged Japanese and International law firm.

_The Tokyo office, part of Linklaters' award-winning global practice, represents the first major joint operations of a local and international law practice, two separate law firms, fully integrating each other's practices, lawyers and other non-legal staff within new premises.

_The relocation, design and development of the office spaces and its support functions required a well balanced combination of international and Japanese aspects, which would facilitate a smooth integration of two firms with different cultural backgrounds.

_According to Benjamin Warner of CDI, the design concept was based on Linklaters' global standard design guidelines. "We also needed to create a space that incorporated Japanese tastes but also an international flavour for the public area," explains Mr. Warner.

_The biggest challenge was to successfully unite the businesses: merging cultures within Linklaters' global standards. This involved introducing 'shared offices' as a standard; rare for Japanese law firms. However, the result has proved positive, with the office space encouraging social interaction and ease of communication with fellow colleagues.

"Schiavello's well-designed workstation system has also contributed to this," comments Linklaters' Project Team. "Schiavello was good at understanding, visualising and giving shape to our needs."

_Work areas comprise 150 workstations in offices and open work areas utilising Schiavello's Elitone desking system with light-toned Victorian Ash veneer desktops and legs in Absolute silver. Elitone is combined with System 45 dividing panels in bright blue tones for open space 1800 x 1800 mm workstations for legal support staff and include custom-designed desktops for user comfort. Private offices along the perimeter include Elitone desking, pedestals, two-drawer file units, and function wall in Absolute Silver, with overhead storage in Victorian Ash veneer. These offices are designed to accommodate two lawyers/bengoshi; however, the workspace can be reconfigured to accommodate three people, as teams and the firm continue to grow and celebrate diversity.