

“It is an absolute privilege to be asked to carry out this important role. The launch of FIESTA is a major step forward. It enables businesses of all shapes and sizes from across the different sectors that make up the furniture and interiors industry to stand united to address education and training issues and work together to create solutions. If we can pull together with a common purpose, putting skills development at the forefront of what we do so the industry is attractive for people of all ages, then we will have driven change at a key time.”

Gary Baker, Managing Director of CDUK and Chairman of FIESTA.

Why Has FIESTA been formed?

The UK has a thriving furniture and interiors sector with 8,000+ businesses employing over 250,000 and generating £11 billion to the UK's GDP. It is a design led industry that contains many world-beating businesses. For the sector to continue to grow it is essential that it continues to attract the very best school leavers and graduates.

What is FIESTA trying to achieve?

FIESTA has been formed to unite and inspire furniture and interiors businesses, helping the industry to become a sector of choice within the UK by facilitating internationally recognised skills development.

Who is involved?

FIESTA brings together the key Trade Associations and Affiliates who represent the manufacturers in this sector together with the sector's charity.

The Association of Master Upholsterers and Soft Furnishers (AMUSF)

The AMUSF was founded in 1947 (then as the AMU) to protect the interests of upholsterers, small furniture makers, and soft furnishers. Today our membership continues to be dominated by micro businesses who offer bespoke furnishing services to the consumer.

[Learn more...](#)

The British Contract Furnishing Association (BCFA)

The BCFA is the British business association for the contract furnishing industry, covering the full spectrum of interior products and services in the UK and globally. The 250+ members are accredited by the association and are leading manufacturers, suppliers and designers of furnishing services for commercial buildings throughout the UK and in world markets.

[Learn more...](#)

The British Furniture Manufacturers Association (BFM)

British Furniture Manufacturers (BFM) is a trade association, employers' organisation and member of the European Furniture Manufacturers' Association. BFM has been representing the interests of the furniture industry for more than 60 years.

[Learn more...](#)

The Furniture Makers' Company

The Furniture Makers' Company is the furnishing industry's charity and a City of London Livery Company. It fosters and supports the industry by nurturing the skills and expertise of students, providing financial assistance to people who work or have worked in the industry needing our help, and championing excellence through its Guild Marks and other awards.

[Learn more...](#)

The Kitchen, Bedrooms, Bathrooms National Training Group (KBBNTG),

The KBBNTG is a network of individuals, businesses and manufacturers who share a common interest in raising and maintaining the skill levels of people who work within the kitchen, bedroom and bathroom industry.

[Learn more...](#)

The Kitchen, Bathroom, Bedroom Specialists Association (KBSA)

Hundreds of local independent kitchen, bathroom, bedroom and home office retailers nationwide are KBSA members, dedicated to upholding the Association's high standards of design, supply, installation and customer service throughout the KBB industry.

[Learn more...](#)

The Kitchen Education Trust (TKET)

The Kitchen Education Trust (TKET) is a registered charity that provides a link between the kitchen industry and higher education. It acts as an intermediary for the kitchen sector in the award of scholarships to successful applicants to attend the foundation degree in Kitchen Design at Buckinghamshire New University.

The National Bed Federation (NBF)

The National Bed Federation is the recognised trade association representing UK manufacturers of beds and their suppliers. Founded in 1912, its members today account for about 75% of the total UK bedding turnover.

[Learn more...](#)

FIESTA will work with the British Furniture Confederation to communicate education and training needs to the government.

Our Vision and Mission

Our Vision:

FIESTA aims to address the furniture and interiors industry's current and future skills needs by encouraging and inspiring new talent to join the industry, and ensuring relevant education, training and qualifications are in place to support them.

Our Mission:

FIESTA will provide an employer-led forum which allows all its stakeholders to identify, clarify, promote and engage with all issues relating to education, skills and training at all levels, for all ages and for all sizes of businesses and sectors across the UK Furniture and Interiors Industry.

FIESTA will:

Drive the development of, and access to, the most appropriate and highest quality education, skills and training for all.

Inspire employers to engage actively in current and future education, skills and training needs, providing them with the reliable, authoritative guidance they need to make informed decisions.

Encourage new talent to enter the industry and existing talent to remain and progress where appropriate.

