Office furniture manufacturers have a long history as users of composite panel products and decorative surfaces. As an industry, these producers understand the characteristics of surface and panel products as well as any other. Performance is critical. Quality engineering is a necessity. A product’s long service life is the ultimate goal. Specifying panel products with the proper modulus of rupture (MOR) and modulus of elasticity (MOE) is taken seriously. Surface materials must also conform to exacting requirements. Value engineering is a way of life in the office furniture segment.

SEE MORE OFFICE FURNITURE APPLICATIONS ON PAGE 26 >

This 3-inch thick compact-laminate work surface demonstrates the possibilities for a designed edge by producing the top with alternating black and white saturated kraft sheets.

A combination of high pressure laminate (HPL) on the horizontal surfaces and high-gloss vinyl on the vertical surfaces is perfect for this attractive mid-century-modern office suite.

This home office was designed by an architect and includes elegant storage cabinets made from walnut faced hardwood plywood and thermally fused laminate (TFL) cabinet interiors. The work surface is an excellent example of the beauty and strength of compact laminate (a.k.a. solid phenolic).
1 TFL is the logical choice for this office system.  
2 A high-gloss finish can be achieved in several ways: solid-color coatings and lacquers, powder coating, or laminates from either acrylic or vinyl. In this case, high-gloss acrylic laminate was used.  
3 The long unsupported extension of this conference table is a clear indication that it was produced with compact laminate (solid phenolic). No other material has the rigidity and strength to accomplish this feat.  
4 Hardwood veneer on either a particleboard (PB) or medium density fiberboard (MDF) substrate gives this office an attractive look.

See pages 48–85 for more detailed product descriptions and performance characteristics.