

Project Location
 Kioicho Building
 3-12, Kioicho
 Chiyoda-ku
 Tokyo Japan

Client
 Nagashima Ohno
 & Tsunematsu
 Ms Hisako Iwai

Design
 Koyuko Office
 System Co:
 Mr Toshimitsu
 Sugawara

Schiavello Japan
 David Ellis
 Takehiko Nakajima
 Yoshinao Aoki

Area
 1630 m²

Products
 System 55 screens
 with Admet rail +
 timber laminated
 curved worktops,
 pedestals and
 accessories.
 Sesto height-
 adjustable desks.



1+3 Workstations comprising System 55 screens 1100 mm high with Admet rail (950 mm high from the floor for secretary area) customised timber laminated curved worktops with pedestal and accessories.
 2 Enclosed office furniture with Sesto height-adjustable desks and custom made furniture.



NAGASHIMA OHNO & TSUNEMATSU JAPAN

Experiencing a new era of development and evolving work cultures, this international law firm is personified through its physical surroundings.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Japan's leading and most diverse law firm, Nagashima Ohno & Tsunematsu (NO&T) provides widespread legal advice to both Japanese and foreign clients across all areas of business. With extremely rapid growth recently experienced and the prioritisation to physically express the company's outstanding reputation, a new head office was required.

Outside influences played a key role in the design of the new environment, with distinctions drawn by lawyers who travelled abroad on business noticing the growing trends toward openness and comfort within work spaces. The previous office's image was described by Senior Designer Mr Toshimitsu Sugawara (Koyuko Office System Co.) as 'cold, due to building standard grey carpets and white desk tops', so the brief specified a sense of warmth and style in conjunction with functionality.

The timing of the new workplace was ideal, according to NO&T's Ms Hisako Iwai, who expressed the positive changes taking place within the company, and the need to demonstrate their sophistication and facilitate relationships between staff. 'The expanding of the office was timed perfectly to put our ideas towards the company's future into effect. We aimed to create an office environment to provide a high quality legal service and to enhance the organisational functions, corporate structure and staff support system.'

Schiavello's Systems Furniture team was selected for their capabilities in creating custom-made solutions. Flexibility was a desirable feature: 'Since there are many foreign lawyers in our office, it is useful to have a height adjustable desk so this can be altered depending on physical size' (Ms Iwai commenting on the Sesto desking systems). From a designer's perspective, Mr Sugawara was also impressed with Schiavello's products – from the availability of colour choices and durability, to their enthusiasm to create an original concept for storage solutions: 'Schiavello is superior in their flexibility and variety of colours and the high quality of the material. This also means costs are reduced.' System 55 workstations were also selected for their custom-styling capabilities, with a wave-design used to encourage synergy and the flow of communication.

A space that facilitates trust and approachability between departments resulted. Mr Sugawara discussed the design's open, smooth flowing plan, with natural materials employed for a lighter, warmer atmosphere. Natural light utilisation also assists in the staff's levels of comfort and reduced need for artificial lighting. A new era of openness and wellbeing among staff is taking the Japanese legal world by storm. NO&T have proven themselves leaders in corporate Japan, facilitating such positive advancements in OH&S performance and innovative design.