

# **Trending Products**

By Scott Russell, Gable Senior Designer

Our <u>design team</u>'s visit to the recent BDNY trade show provided a compelling glimpse into the latest materials, furnishings, and design concepts shaping the <u>hospitality</u> and <u>retail</u> sectors. We attended the show to discover innovative product offerings and connect with industry leaders exhibiting new solutions.

Through hands-on exploration of vendor booths, photos, and conversations, our team identified several forward-thinking solutions pushing boundaries in the areas of textured wall-cladding, lighting applications, sustainable materials, and more. In this recap we'll highlight some of the most inspiring designs and technologies spotted at the show to help you envision how these concepts could elevate your projects.





### **Overview**

#### Metals Take On New Form and Function

A variety of metal features and fixtures were on display at the show. Sculptural light pieces crafted from materials like brass showed how metalwork could serve as dramatic centerpieces. More functional solutions like the **polished aluminum surrounds** that modernized classic chandeliers demonstrated the versatility of metal in a design solution. Metal accents also made appearances, such as **chain link dividers and curtains** that partitioned spaces in new ways and signage that incorporated fingerprint-resistant stainless steel. Collectively, the metal fixtures reflected the ongoing trend of mixing sleek sophistication with tactile textures.

#### 2 Wall Coverings with Textural Themes

Tactile wall coverings were a major draw at the trade show. Exhibitors enticed attendees with textured samples begging to be touched. **Embossed materials** resembled luxurious fabrics like felt or suede, inviting visitors to run their hands along the **textural surfaces**. Rippling, wavy patterns highlighted the dimensional experiences they could create when targeting them with dramatic illumination at a large scale. Even familiar **faux materials** pushed boundaries, as digital prints showcased textured substrates using conventional printing inks. The emphasis on varied tactile surfaces through wall coverings demonstrated the ongoing trend of engaging multiple senses within an interior design to activate <u>hospitality</u> and <u>retail</u> spaces in new ways.

#### **Lighting Concepts With New Possibilities**

Many innovative lighting fixtures piqued interest at the trade show. Sculptural details crafted attention-grabbing focal points, while programmable RGB installations set the stage for dynamic visual shows. There were many examples of illuminated hospitality signage aligning with projects we are currently working on for our casino clients. Across the board, lighting companies demonstrated the power of illumination to transform interior experiences far beyond what static design elements alone can achieve.



### **Metallic Form & Function**

Continued...

Metallic shades are coming back in style, with bronze, copper, and anodized metals shining under the lights. Finishes ranged from smooth to subtly textured, allowing designers to choose the perfect level of sophistication. Concrete and concrete-like materials also made their presence known, from rustic textures to sleek polished surfaces enhanced with metallic undertones.

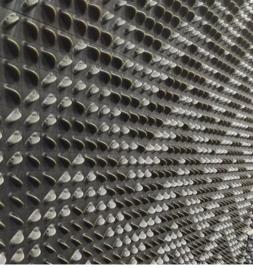
















## **Metallic Form & Function**

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One of the most intriguing products on display was the chain link decor. Metal chain sculptures took linear materials into the realm of organic art. Delicate yet durable links create abstract shapes, logos, and other customized patterns on a massive scale.





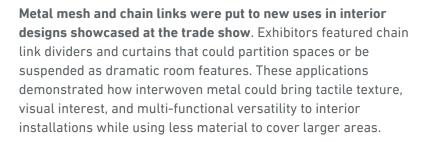




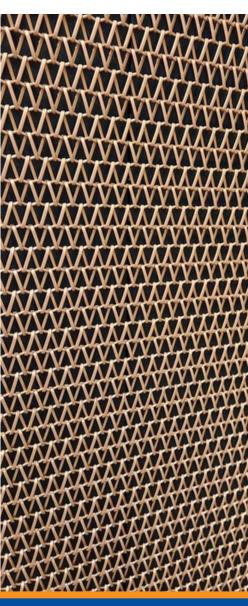


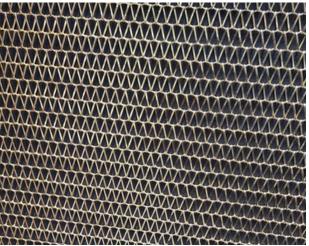
### **Metallic Form & Function**











## **Tactile Wall Coverings**

Tactile wall coverings stood out as an emerging trend. Exhibitors enticed visitors with highly textured samples that begged to be touched. Embossed materials resembled luxurious fabrics like felt or suede, inviting hands-on exploration of their dimensional surfaces. Rippling wavy patterns teased at the visual and physical experiences they could provide on a larger scale. The emphasis on varied tactile wall coverings demonstrated the increasing focus in interior design on engaging multiple senses through layered visual and textural feedback.







## **Tactile Wall Coverings**

Wood-inspired wall coverings caught our eye. Textured surfaces mimicked warm, natural wood grains, bringing the tactile qualities and visual interest of the material indoors. Digital prints showcased how realistic faux wood textures have become. Exhibitors also featured reclaimed wood panels with varied grains, knots and imperfections that added authentic character. The wood-themed wall coverings tapped into the ongoing popularity of biophilic and ecofriendly interior design trends.











## **Tactile Wall Coverings**

Green wall coverings made several appearances at the trade show. One exhibitor, in particular, had developed a system using living moss as a wall treatment. This provided a living, breathing wall surface that added natural texture and a splash of greenery. It represented another way in which biophilic design elements integrate into interior spaces in unique and visually appealing ways.





A similar exterior <u>faux grow wall Gable installed</u> behind the main identification.



# **Custom Lighting Fixtures**

**Custom light fixtures put unique spins on classic styles**, such as sculptural pieces that could serve as dramatic focal points. Even familiar materials like wood took on new characteristics when backlit or outfitted with accent lighting.

Some demonstrated pairing traditional wall metal paneling with LED accent lighting. Throughout, exhibitors showed the power of considered lighting design to transform spaces and heighten the user experience.



(Left) An illuminated room number project in development at Gable incorporating multiple finishes and color changing lighting. The color changes to indicate "do not disturb" room status.











### **Our Takeaways**

Our team walked away from the BDNY trade show with invaluable insights into the latest trends and most innovative new products in the design industry. A few key ideas we took away include:

- Texture is taking the stage. The emphasis on varied tactile surfaces shows designers seek more layered sensory experiences.
- Sustainability is being achieved stylishly. Reclaimed and repurposed materials prove that the environmentally friendly option can also be elegant.
- Lighting adds whole new dimensions. Whether subtle accents or dramatic focal points, illumination transforms spaces in ways physical elements alone cannot.
- Customization remains key. Manufacturers who accommodate bespoke orders, as well as mass-production runs, give designers more flexibility to create unique visions achieve budget goals.

We live in an exciting world of industries blending together, and our team is full of new ideas for our clients. The show reaffirmed our endeavor to push the boundaries of what's possible with interior design fixtures.



Contact Gable to learn more about how to incorporate these retail and hospitality design trends into your next project.



Scott Russell is a Senior Designer with Gable. He has over 20 years of design experience in the areas of signage and fabrication and leads Gable's material library. He is passionate about being a "maker" and applies it wherever he finds an opportunity.







