

Biography

STACKLAB

STACKLAB is a multi-disciplinary design practice based in Toronto. Through its products and projects, the studio aims to provoke meaningful discourse about our ways of living. Founded by Jeff Forrest in 2013, STACKLAB is known for its innovative blend of design, tech and circular manufacturing. Rather than work backwards from the desired output, such as a new chair or a home, the team applies a diverse set of skills and perspectives to problems worth solving. With a particular passion for the challenges facing regional manufacturing, the studio believes that the key to smarter, more efficient, and better-for-the-environment living is its signature systems-based approach.

Taking inspiration from the technology 'stack,' which leverages existing technologies, infrastructures, and skills to create iterative, holistic solutions, STACKLAB's regional network of experts in science and craft enables cross-pollination throughout the process. Oftentimes with the aid of an algorithm, every step is optimized to ensure it does the maximum with the minimum; opening up opportunities for material upcycling, waste reduction and alternate scenarios for reuse.

STACKLAB strongly believes in design as a vehicle for critical thinking. The team approaches every problem without bias toward a particular method or medium to maintain its focus on impact. Their output might therefore be described as a container for new ideas; the result of a rigorous process in pursuit of the best solution.

Select dealers include Maison Gerard (New York), Jean De Merry (Chicago, Dallas, New York) and Una Malan (Los Angeles, San Francisco). The studio's works have been acquired by the City of Toronto's Fine Art Collection, and the permanent collection of the Embassy of Canada to Iceland in Reykjavik, and have been recognized for their innovation through multiple award wins, such as The American Society of Interior Design's Design Innovation Award (2016) and the Best of Canada Awards in the Product (2020, 2016) and Project (2017) categories.