

Green thumbs

While studies on workplace gardening have widely highlighted its therapeutic effects – boosting company morale and workplace friendships – not all businesses have access to green space. Enter Hong Kong-based French designer François Hurtaud who developed a clever alternative with his indoor farming piece Eva, which integrates an aquaponic ecosystem. 3D-printed in photosensitive resin, the flower-inspired creation comes complete with sleek, elevated aesthetics and brings life to dull working spaces by mimicking the natural ecosystem of a lake. Fish waste is deposited into its garden where the plant roots break down the ammoniac into nitrates and nitrites. The former feeds the plants, and the latter is food for the fish, while a diffused light gently turns itself on and off at dawn and dusk.

A thoughtful addition to workspaces, promising fresh food and a place to gather and connect with work colleagues, Eva puts a modern twist on the ‘water cooler’ moment. francoishurtaud.com

