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Herman Miller Takes Top Spot in Fortune's 'Most Admired'

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Herman Miller Takes Top Spot in Fortune's 'Most Admired' The Fortune results, published in the magazine's March 8, 2004, edition, rate Herman Miller as the most admired firm in the furniture industry for the 16th time in the last 18 years. The publication also ranked Herman Miller among the most innovative companies in any industry, placing the firm fourth overall among the nearly 600 companies surveyed.

The magazine characterizes the annual listing as "the definitive report card on corporate reputations." The rankings are based on survey results from more than 10,000 business leaders, including executives, directors and securities analysts. Within each industry segment, respondents (who are industry peers or industry analysts and experts) are asked to evaluate companies on the basis of eight "key attributes of reputation," including quality of products/services, long-term investment value, employee talent, quality of management, use of corporate assets, financial soundness, social responsibility and innovation. Herman Miller's ratings in each of the eight categories improved from its score a year earlier.

"The Fortune ranking, especially in these challenging economic times, speaks to the resilient quality and character of Herman Miller and our 7,000 employee-owners," said Michael A. Volkema, Herman Miller's Chairman and CEO. "It's gratifying to be recognized as a leader in problem-solving design and innovation."

Herman Miller helps create great places to work by researching, designing, manufacturing, and distributing innovative interior furnishings that support companies, organizations, and individuals all over the world. The company's award-winning products, complemented by furniture management and strategic consulting services, generated \$1.34 billion in revenue during fiscal 2003. In 2003 Herman Miller was ranked among the top 50 "most innovative corporate users of information technology" by Information Week magazine and was again included in Business Ethics magazine's "100 Best Corporate Citizens." Herman Miller was also named recipient of the prestigious National Design Award for product design from the Smithsonian Institution's Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum. The company trades on the NASDAQ stock market under the symbol MLHR. For additional information about the company, visit www.hermanmiller.com.