

Special Materials Edition

# THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN YEARBOOK 2002

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Paolo Lillari  
Screen, LP  
Coverflex plywood  
h. 120cm (47 1/8") w. 35cm (13 7/8")  
l. 300 cm (118 1/8")  
BBB Rimini, Italy

Thanks to the countless reinventions of the straight-backed minimalist chair, plywood is probably the most undervalued material on the market today. Yet handled intelligently its simple, pared-down aesthetic allows the contemporary designer to exhibit his or her skill, the repeated folding of very thin sheets providing an opportunity to offer a delicate profile while retaining the almost incredible weight-bearing properties.

Paolo Lillari's screen is the result of his discovery of Coverflex – an extraordinarily flexible plywood 3.5 millimetre thick that was patented in Italy two years ago by the Jolanda Elisca Molteni company. The screen is sold flat-packed, but with a simple action – the pushing in of the vertical sides – it transforms into a three-dimensional object that can just as easily be raised to its flat form for transportation. The screen is soft, elastic and very light, weighing just 10 kilograms, but has a solid, almost monolithic, presence once opened.

