



MAKING SANITARY SENSE

NEW AESTHETIC AND PRACTICAL SANITARYWARE AND FLUSHING SYSTEMS ARE TURNING BATHROOMS INTO DYNAMIC SPACES.

BY BINDU GOPAL RAO

A diverse product portfolio of best-in-class solutions for bathrooms, ranging from functional to luxurious, is adding new dimensions to bathrooms.

NEW LAUNCHES

LIXIL, known for global brands such as GROHE and

American Standard, has recently introduced new GROHE collections in entry-level to premium price segments, including features like PureGuard, which focuses on superior hygiene. "The GROHE Rapid SL flushing system gives you the freedom to design an aesthetic, clutter-free bathroom by providing a secure and quick method of installing wall-hung basins, bidets, urinals and toilets. It is available in three different installation heights. Each frame

comes pre-assembled with sanitary ware fixing mechanism and is subject to stringent testing - our cistern frames are tested to hold up to 400 kg. Our new launches at American Standard have focused on promoting hygiene and providing protection from disease-causing bacteria and germs. The Acacia SupaSleek wall-hung toilet features our patented AquaCeramic technology, and has an extremely hydrophilic surface. It allows water to penetrate beneath any waste that has adhered to the ceramic and easily lifts it using only the power of water. Signature wall-hung toilets with Hygiene Rim technology clean the bowl thoroughly and are stain resistance. The Castello wall-hung toilet with Hygiene Rim and ComfortClean technologies stop disease-causing E. Coli bacteria from growing," explains Bobby Joseph, Leader - LIXIL Water Technology, India and Subcontinent.

Likewise, Hansgrohe's newly launched Vivenis faucets provide grandeur with economical water consumption features. The Vivenis faucets come in several variants with on-the-wall and concealed installation options. They



also offer a state-of-the-art concept called Rainfinity. It is equipped with different jet and spray features. Its futuristic archetype design enhances the overall outlook and atmosphere of the bathroom.

AESTHETIC VIEW

A balance of aesthetics and practicality underscore the new designs in sanitaryware and flushing systems. Ergonomic designs, smart tech, durability, and a conscious adherence to budgetary limits blend seamlessly with aesthetics. "The selection begins with a call for ergonomically designed fixtures that accommodate the users' physical needs. The acknowledgement of convenience, accessibility, clear areas, and ethnic adaptation of standard measurements remind us that sanitation is more than an essential need. This lifestyle-oriented perspective in the use of sanitaryware also underlines the desired ease of maintenance. Drier, moisture-resistant products are brought in, favouring luxurious ceramics," says Dhruva Kalra, Principal Architect, I'm D'sign.

CHOOSING RIGHT

Today's users can use modern shower systems with multiple panels and features that give a refreshing experience while also saving enormous amounts of energy and water. Paushika Gupta, Founder, Paushika Gupta Architecture + Design, explains, "I consider brands who bring their A game when it comes to serviceability and quality. Quality checks ensure placement of entry and exit points, smoothness of surfaces and having ceramics with a smooth glaze and antimicrobial properties, which limits the growth of bacteria, mold or stains. Aesthetics and sizes go together for me, this sets the tone of the bathroom and ensures the ease of use. For example, in basins, I prefer taking colours that don't stain with watermarks, or a basin whose height is approximately 5" or over, such that the water does not spill or selecting a round front toilet for compact areas, and elongated ones for additional comfort."

MATERIAL MATTERS

Sturdy, reliable material palettes with non-corrosive sanitary ware available in a plethora of finishes like nickel, copper, bronze and brass, along with mirror and surface finishes,



2. The Saugaat Project in New Delhi by I'm Design Studio use luxe sanitaryware to achieve an elite look.

3. Dhruva Kalra, Principal Architect, I'm D'sign Studio



4. Bobby Joseph, Leader, LIXIL Water Technology India and Sub continent

5. American Standard Signature Bathroom courtesy GROHE LIXIL Water Technology

6. The balance of aesthetics and practicality is maintained by using innovative technology courtesy Paushika Gupta Architecture

add to the style of a contemporary bathroom. “Smart additions to systems—such as sensor touch, temperature control, etc., strike a balance when paired with new age metal palettes in gold, rose gold, copper and other metallic tints in their body, details or accessories. In elemental sanitaryware choices, space-saving, minimal designs are desired with pristine, seamless finishes—these reflect the



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original shades of ceramic as in beige, mud, sage, salmon etc., creating a restful ambience. Quirky yet ergonomically-sound forms with curved stems, twisted edges and other detailing are enough to revive harmony,” says Kalra.

GREEN WAYS

Bathrooms demand a huge emphasis on not only design and aesthetics but more importantly, functionality. Not only that, water conservation by using low flow fittings and fixtures allows every resident to lead a sustainable life. Responsible and sustainable technologies that focus on aspects like water conservation and environment sustainability is becoming important. Smart solutions that are hygienic, use less water and are simple to maintain are becoming popular. Gaurav Malhotra, MD India, and Regional Key Accounts Asia, Hansgrohe India, explains, “At Hansgrohe, our goal is to offer smart tools with stylish functionalities and environment friendly attributes without hampering comfort, luxury, and the wellness experience. On the back of this philosophy, our EcoSmart products are thriving. For instance, EcoSmart lavatory faucets are integrated with an aerator to spout and enrich the water with thin air in a special flow limitation system. This results in a bubbling water jet that limits water flow and saves water usage. We also use a thermostatic mixer to balance temperature and volume throughout. Compared to single lever taps accompanied by preset temperature controls, thermostatic mixers can effectively save water and energy.” Rishad Khergamwala, Director – Developments, MAIA Estates, adds, “Being a design forward brand, it is our endeavour to choose fixtures that are long lasting and add to the beauty of the space. However, the most important aspect for us as



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SANITARYWARE FOR THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

Looking for the best sanitaryware fittings for hospitality projects? Laguna, the bathroom-collection by Jaquar, designed by Matteo Thun & Antonio Rodriguez, an award-winning architecture and design studio headquartered in Milan, is conceived specially for hospitality projects.

The collection, which is all about combination and lightweight, comprises a variety of faucets, a full range of sanitaryware, frameless shower box, and subtle bath accessories. Made of high-quality ceramic, the slim shapes allow for the products to blend with several options. Faucets, accessories, furniture, shower and bathtub can be composed with various metal finishes or paired with oak and walnut wood. While keeping its strong character, the collection includes three colour groups and a wide range of additional parts. Laguna gives room for different moods, looks and dimensions and its design language is all about modern elegance. Jaquar Laguna is available in a variety of single tone and dual colours.



an environmentally conscious brand is to make sure that we only choose brands where the flushing systems are crafted to offer the maximum output with the least amount of water wastage.”

TREND CHECK

The new age trends in sanitaryware and flushing systems lean towards hygienic versions that take advantage of cutting-edge technology in everything, from operation to function. Post pandemic, demand for touchless fixtures is on the rise and sensor-controlled faucets dominate both public and private bathrooms, while dispensers replace cluttered cabinets. “Some of the sensor-based basin mixers, or digital faucets that turn on and off when hand motion is sensed, also come with programmable features. Toilet systems have become more advanced for the specially-abled by using voice commands and sound systems. One can easily control

a bathroom through IoT connectivity, features like water temperature, seat warming, music, floor warming, lighting, showering system, can all be controlled digitally,” avers Gupta. Bathrooms are not only a functional space, but more an extension of our lifestyles. Practical comfort, coupled with innovative technology and new age materials, drive the design of a bathroom - unlocking better lives one bathroom at a time. ^{MAIA}

WEBSITES:

- **LIXIL Water Technology:** <https://www.lixil.com/en/business/water.html>
- **I'm D'sign:** <https://www.instagram.com/imdsign/?hl=en>
- **Paushika Gupta Architecture + Design:** <https://www.instagram.com/paushika/?hl=en>
- **Hansgrohe India:** <https://www.hansgrohe.in/>
- **MAIA Estates:** <https://www.maiaestates.in/>



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7. Hansgrohe Vivenis faucets come in several variants with on-the-wall and concealed installation options.

8. Paushika Gupta, Founder, Paushika Gupta Architecture + Design

9. Rishad Khergamwala, Director – Developments, MAIA Estates

10. Gaurav Malhotra MD India and Regional Key Accounts Asia, Hansgrohe Group