

Beyond the Desk.

Exploring the Future of Workspaces.

The Story Behind the Rover Range®

An interview with Steve Smith, Director of OLG Office

Three years ago, at the international furniture fair Orgatec in Germany, OLG Director Steve Smith and Head of Operations Benji Smith were searching for products that could revitalise and evolve the OLG portfolio. Always design-led and future-focused, Steve was drawn to Europe's reputation as a hub of design innovation.

What he noticed was clear: mobility was emerging as a defining trend. From desks to screens and cabinets, movement was everywhere, but it lacked cohesion. At the same time, acoustics were becoming a bigger consideration in workplace design.

“What was needed was a coordinated solution, something that combined function, aesthetics, flexibility, biophilia, real timber accents and mobility,” Steve recalls.

From Idea to Iteration.

Drawing on years of experience in furniture design and with his eye for functionality with finesse and elegance, the idea of the Rover Range® was born. A mobile collection that would allow organisations to reconfigure spaces seamlessly while retaining design sophistication.

The development process spanned over two years of designing, testing, prototyping, and customer feedback. Every detail was scrutinised many times with the goal of creating a product that would not only last beyond OLG's industry-leading 10-year warranty but also enable adaptability across sectors.

For example, in education and training, the Rover Range allows open areas to be quickly reconfigured into focused breakout spaces with mobile whiteboards, video screens, planters, and cupboard units all working seamlessly to form mobile walls. Architect feedback refined the details, from adopting “Starphire” ultra-clear glass (free from green tones) for the optimal writing surface, to ensuring battery-powered TV units were fully cordless and mobile. The use of real timber surrounds provided timber accents throughout the office environment.

Quiet Confidence in Design.

The Rover Range was designed from the ground up, beginning with softened rounded corners and evolving into a collection that marries natural materials with acoustic performance. FSC-certified maple timber accents bring warmth and tactility, while recycled acoustic boards deliver sound absorption in a mobile format, and still allow multiple colour options to work in with the surrounds.



Each piece is a balance of practicality, flexibility, and elegance:

- Large medical-grade castors for effortless moveability
- Acoustic panels with high NRC ratings that are also pinnable
- A palette of colour options to integrate with diverse interiors
- Height considerations tailored for both primary and secondary education, and office environments create partitions that can be reconfigured in a heartbeat.
- Mobile Planters that bring biophilia into any environment

“It was about setting a new standard designing not just mobile furniture, but adaptable solutions that elevate spaces and bring all these elements (real timber, acoustics, high mobility, multi functionality) together in one range,” Steve explains.

More Than a Range: A Philosophy.

The Rover Range is more than a collection of products; it represents OLG’s ongoing evolution and design philosophy. By listening to customer feedback, integrating real-world practicality, and striving for uniqueness, OLG has signalled a way forward for adaptable furniture in modern environments.

“The Rover Range isn’t static,” Steve says. “It’s built to evolve, just like our business. That philosophy colours everything we do and build.”

For resellers, fit-out professionals, and designers, the Rover Range represents an opportunity: a way to deliver spaces that are functional, flexible, and undeniably contemporary.

With employee wellbeing, focus, and collaboration on the line, investing in acoustic design is a step toward a more effective, sustainable, and people-centred workplace.