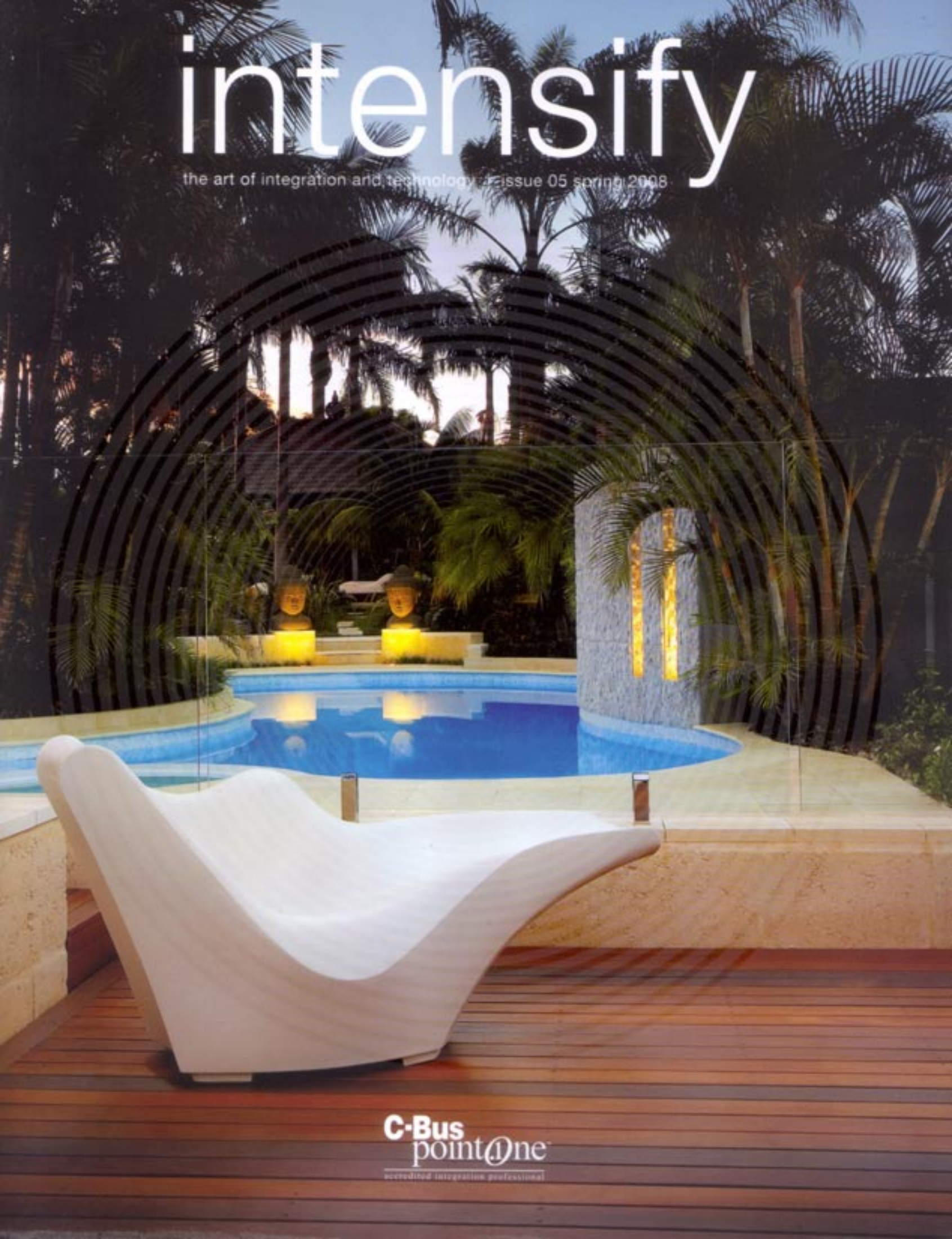


# intensity

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## natural ingredients

For the presentation spaces of the new Mitsui Coal Holdings corporate offices in central Brisbane, Harry Poulos Architects combined striking natural elements with state-of-the-art technology. The result is a multi-functional environment with a warm and welcoming presence, says Penelope Barker.

A glowing, jade green onyx boardroom table is the centrepiece of the new Mitsui Coal Holdings Brisbane headquarters. The client requested a space that unified the Japanese origin of the company with its current Australian profile. The sophisticated design was to take its lead from natural tones, with an added distinctive ornate pattern.

Treated as a corporate retreat in the centre of Brisbane, the focus on light and warmth in the core presentation space on the 12th floor became the central theme. Fresh tones and clean, crisp surfaces such as glass tiles, stone benches and timber veneer detailing were introduced in the break-out areas and bathroom leading off the boardroom to offer a more casual and intimate atmosphere.

"The clients wanted the best of everything," says Project Manager Jane Claxton, of Harry Poulos Architects. "And with the presentation spaces, we offered them a complete package that can change

effortlessly on a daily basis for board meetings, corporate entertaining and in-house presentations. The possibilities are virtually limitless."

C-Bus pointOne member 5thCorner was responsible for coordinating the six levels of lighting, automated blinds, audiovisual and teleconferencing equipment, and high tech sound system within the space, all controlled by either wall-mounted touch screen or hand-held remote.

"We were really impressed with how well the technology was integrated", says Kelly Weijers from 5thCorner, "You can barely see it, and that's the idea". The kind of activity in the boardroom determines what technology is used and the one-touch screens make it easy for the user to adjust the room to suit. If it's video conferencing, the clients use the plasma, as it gives the best results when there's lots of ambient light. And for maximum impact during a presentation, they can opt for the



“A complete package that can change effortlessly on a daily basis for board meetings, corporate entertaining and in-house presentations”



C-Bus Point One member  
5thCorner  
Builder  
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Electrical Contractor  
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Electrical Consultant  
ITC  
Architect  
Harry Poulos Architects

motorised screen and projector. The easiest way to control everything is through the mobile 8.4" wireless Crestron touch screen panel – it's not only easy to use, but colour-matched to suit the décor.

“With the boardroom table which seats 21 people, 5thCorner really made a fantastic piece of joinery come alive,” says Claxton, “with adjustable lighting beneath, hydraulic lift to adjust the height in three sections, and conceal audio visual components and connections.

“The space provides a welcoming and positive environment for the client's many visiting international team members and all aspects are effortless to control, creating a truly multi-functional space.”

*Text Penelope Barker*

*Photography David Hogan, Brisbane Virtual Imaging*

