

JOHANSON

Press release April 2026

Johanson – a genuine Swedish furniture company



For those of you who are not familiar with Johanson, the company has more than 60 years of experience in creating Swedish furniture featuring pure, simple and well-balanced design. Börje Johanson's original idea was to sew hearth cushions and in 1953 he started his company in Markaryd in southern Sweden. His sons Dan and Paul Johanson took over the business in 1992. With a very clear ambition to manufacture furniture for public interiors, they have invested a great deal of time, energy and resources into design, product development and marketing. This has produced impressive results, with the company now a well known name. Loyal customers can now be found in Europe, USA, the Middle East and Asia.

An important step in the company's development process was our decision to work with external designers. We are continually developing our wide selection of furniture in close and long-term collaboration with some of the foremost designers in Sweden and Europe.

Press contact

For more information, images or product loans, please contact Ulrika Görefält, who is Johanson's press contact. Email ulrika.gorefalt@plodder.se or phone +46 (0)708-27 05 53. All press releases and images are available to download at <https://johansondesign.com/downloads/press>

Johanson is deeply committed to its environmental and quality work. The company is certified according to ISO 14001 and they fulfil the requirements for certification by the Swedish Möbelfakta organisation. We comply with EU standards, in which the highest requirements for testing and durability for public environments are met.

Today, Johanson is an international company with 80 employees and a turnover of 250 MSEK. Our aim is to continue to expand while retaining our quality and delivery reliability standards as well as our involvement and service levels that characterize our commitment to our present customers.

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Lyon by Färg & Blanche – a chair with soft lines and a clear structure



Lyon is a new chair by Färg & Blanche for Johanson, in which metal, an upholstered seat and back come together in a soft and organic expression. The chair will launch during Salone del Mobile in Milan in April 2026 and continues the twelve-year collaboration between the designers and Johanson.

It was with the chair Frankie that the now twelve-year collaboration between Färg & Blanche and Johanson began. With the design duo's latest launch, Lyon, the ambition has been to create a new chair that relates to Frankie in its materiality and construction, while at the same time establishing an identity of its own.

"With Lyon, we wanted to create a new chair that also combines metal with an upholstered seat and back, but from a more organic starting point. Here, we have focused on lines that move, meet and flow together to shape both the legs and the armrests. The goal was to find a natural and almost intuitive flow in the chair's lines," say Färg & Blanche.

What most clearly characterizes Lyon is the arch formed by the metal rear legs. In the version with armrests, this movement continues and meets in the back, where the arch is connected to the front section and the armrest. The result is a coherent and soft structure in which all parts are linked together in one continuous line.

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Lyon is conceived as an elegant and understated chair that works in many different settings. It is available with or without armrests and is stackable, making it flexible for both public environments and more private settings. An important detail in the chair is the meeting point at the back where the metal lines are joined – a junction that is significant both structurally and visually.

"The chair has grown out of the movement of the hand – a search for lines that feel natural, elegant and alive," say Färg & Blanche.

The name Lyon comes from the city of Lyon in eastern France. Emma grew up in the Alps, and according to the designers, the very word Lyon carries a sense of flow that reflects the chair's form.

As with Frankie, Färg & Blanche look forward to architects exploring the possibilities found in the combination of metal and textile and using colour as an active design tool. At the same time, there is clear potential for Lyon to evolve further into additional variants and complementary products over time. With Lyon, Johanson and Färg & Blanche present a chair in which materiality, movement and construction come together in an expression that is both understated and distinct – with a form that feels natural, coherent and alive.

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Split by Färg & Blanche – where textile meets metal in a new series for Johanson



During Salone del Mobile in Milan in April 2026, Johanson presents Split, a new series designed by Färg & Blanche. The series is initially launched as bar stools and a bench and takes its starting point in the meeting between upholstery and construction, where the textile becomes an integrated part of the form rather than a layer placed on top.

“The starting point was to explore how upholstery and construction can meet in a new way, where the textile does not simply lie on top but becomes a more integrated part of the form,” say Färg & Blanche.

In Split, the textile element extends further down into the construction and meets the legs of the product in a way that creates a clear connection between the soft and the structural. What appears simple is the result of a carefully resolved process, where proportions, junctions and drape have been decisive to the product’s expression.

The construction is based on a split metal tube which, through its composition, creates an arch that meets the other leg. The result is a form that suggests four arches coming together. The distinctive expression emerges in the meeting between these arches and the textile element, which extends down into the construction and gives the series an organic, almost animal quality. The seams at the top of the stool meet

the point of the textile and contribute to a tailored and distinctive expression.

“The meeting between the point of the textile and the metal arches is central – it is where much of the product’s character emerges,” say Färg & Blanche.

Split is conceived as the beginning of a larger family. In its first launch, the series is presented as bar stools and a bench, but it has been developed with the ambition of growing over time into additional typologies, such as a low stool, an armchair and a modular sofa. The idea is to create a series that feels modular and generous in its upholstery, and that can function in many different types of environments.

The combination of metal and textile also opens great freedom in terms of colour. Split is intended to give architects and interior designers the opportunity to work with both contrasts and tone-on-tone combinations, and to explore the interplay between material, form and colour.

With Split, Johanson and Färg & Blanche present a new product family in which construction, upholstery and material meetings take center stage – and where a distinct expression of its own is given room to emerge.

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The Pelican series expands – launching at Salone del Mobile 2026



The Pelican series expands with several new models, with the new outdoor version Pelican Bistro at its centre. During Salone del Mobile in Milan in April 2026, Johanson will also present a low-back bar stool and a chair with armrests within the same product family.

“The idea of developing Pelican into a chair that also works in outdoor environments grew out of the need for a piece of furniture that combines lightness, durability and a clear design language,” says Johan Lindstén.

The new outdoor version, Pelican Bistro, builds on Pelican’s lines and characteristic silhouette, but has been adapted to meet the demands of both public and private outdoor settings. With its airy metal construction, the chair has a light and graphic expression in which form and function interact. The open design gives the chair a natural sense of robustness while still feeling refined and inviting. The choice of materials makes it resistant to the elements, easy to maintain and easy to place in everything from outdoor cafés and terraces to courtyard settings and private patios.

The outdoor version has been developed with the same care for comfort and usability as the original. The result is a chair that feels effortless in its simplicity – stackable, durable and formally consistent – created to endure over time, both aesthetically and functionally, outdoors as well as indoors.

Pelican Bistro is also launched with a seat cushion and is made entirely of metal, allowing the model to be offered in a full range of RAL colours.

In addition to Pelican Bistro, the product family is further expanded with two additional variants – a low-back bar stool and a chair with armrests – both of which further develop the original model within the same design language. The moulded seats are available in 14 standard colours, while the metal frames can be specified in the full range of RAL colours.



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