

Project Report  
Activity Based Workspace

## Activity based working space – Creating secure and flexible workspaces

Activity-based working (ABW) is the latest concept in contemporary office environments, and it's a growing trend in Australia in particular, where many large corporations are benefiting from the flexibility and economies that ABW brings.

It's no longer a case of one employee, one desk, or even one task, one desk. Instead office design and layout must be able to expand and contract according to a company's needs, enabling staff to enjoy the flexibility, comfort and convenience of office spaces that have also been designed with productivity in mind. Within an ABW-designed space, for example, there may be busy open plan areas with lots of desks, quieter spaces for more concentrated tasks, 'brainstorming rooms' and open areas with stand-up computer terminals.

Modern offices are often short on space, but by incorporating ABW practices in their offices many companies are able to fully optimise the use of that space – meaning they can operate from smaller office spaces, while still keeping the numbers of staff they require. All this means that their operating costs are lower, and they see an improvement in their bottom line.

Also, with staff being able to tidy away their work and personal effects into secure lockers at the end of each shift, it means that open plan office spaces remain clear and uncluttered – offering a good impression to clients and potential clients visiting from outside, as well as a more pleasant working environment for staff.

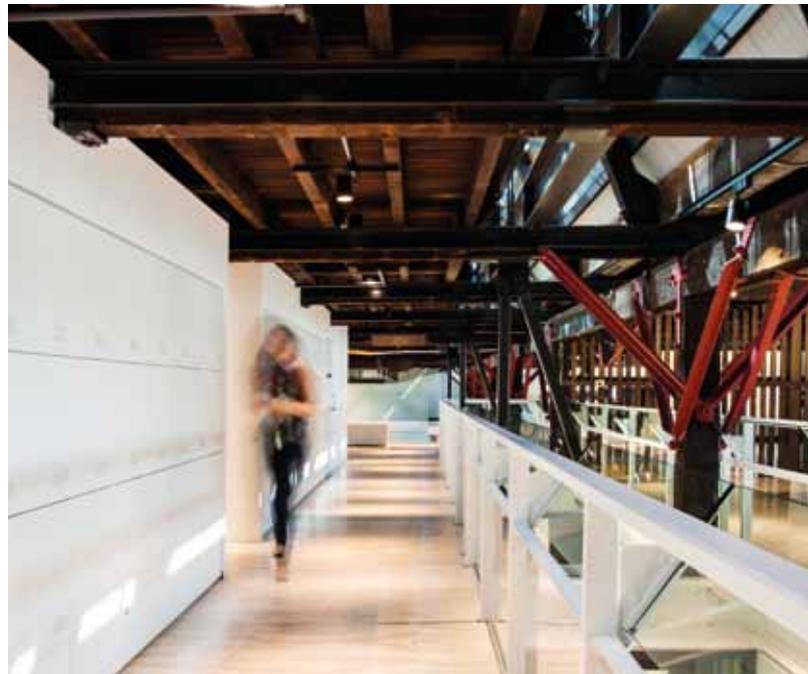


## PROJECT 1 Hassell Architects, Sydney

Hassell is a leading Sydney-based design practice that specialises in creating modern office environments that not only reflect a company's culture, but also help to boost its employees' productivity and satisfaction. Established more than 70 years ago, Hassell has delivered over a million square metres of workplace design for more than 1,000 clients, covering work sectors as diverse as aviation, defence and healthcare, right through to arts & culture, sport & leisure and retail.

GANTNER was commissioned to supply and install 120 of its hardwired Mifare lockers for Hassell's new Sydney office location, and the project presented GANTNER with some new and interesting design challenges.

Hassell is one of the most active designers in Australia for activity-based working (ABW) environments, and so for its own office 'showcase' it naturally wanted an installation that was well suited to ABW practices, was reliable and secure, and had great design aesthetics.



### The solution for Hassell

Hassell's project designers were looking for both form and function. To suit their stylish office environment, they wanted a very clean-looking door with no visible fixings, and so GANTNER designed a bespoke internal booster label for its GAT Lock 5020F which made this possible.

The client was very satisfied with these new clean 'designer' locker doors and all the functions of the hard-wired locker system. They look particularly stylish in the architect's contemporary office space, while not making any compromises on security or functionality.

Staff who are working different hours can simply lock up their work or their personal effects at the end of their shift and know that they are secure. The installation of GANTNER's locker system also means that anyone visiting the office for meetings or for various work-based activities will have a place to store their belongings too.

Keeping the work spaces clutter-free also helps to keep the working environment calm and focused — a perfect place for designers and architects to get creative and do their best work.

One convenient card can be used to gain entry to the building, the office space and the lockers. This saves time and makes it very convenient for the employees, while also saving money and boosting productivity for the company.

Another great advantage on this project, is that Hassell's designers can experience the ease and beauty of smart locking at first hand in their own work environment, giving them greater insight and knowledge of GANTNER's locker system when designing and specifying for their own ABW clients.

## PROJECT 2

### Banking Corporation, Sydney

GANTNER recently completed a large-scale installation at a leading banking corporation in Australia, which wanted to create an enhanced working environment for its new Sydney office, using the best technology and ABW design practices.

As a major bank, the company needed the highest access and security arrangements for its employees, and it chose GANTNER because of its strong reputation for designing, delivering and maintaining large, high quality locker systems for commercial offices. At the time of completion, the project was GANTNER's single biggest locker project, with 2700 units.

With a large staff, it was essential for the bank to be able to provide employees with secure places to store either their belongings or their work papers when required.

Another factor of operating a large staff is that office spaces can quickly get cluttered and look disorganised. Providing lockers is an effective way of keeping the modern office environment clear, while ensuring the working areas are used just for work. Employing ABW practices means that large companies can often incorporate larger numbers of staff into fewer square metres, therefore cutting costs.

As the GANTNER project also combined the function of the employee's ID and swipe card with the smart locker card, further savings were achieved for the company by eliminating the need for two cards per employee.

### Custom-made solution

The installation for the bank started with a small pilot project in an existing building so bank staff could get accustomed to using smartcard-controlled lockers before the main installation took place.

GANTNER's electronic lockers can be operated by existing data carriers such as staff ID-cards (with various RFID technologies like MIFARE®, LEGIC®, and HID iClass® being supported). Bank employees' staff cards also acted as a fully-functional credit card, and so GANTNER designed a

bespoke upgrade to the new locker readers so these cards could function seamlessly with its system – therefore avoiding the need for all staff cards to be changed.

Using the GAT Lock Administration software, the system is set up in free locker mode with an authorisation list, so that every time a staff card is read, the lock controller asks the server for authorisation before locking occurs, ensuring maximum security for the bank.



## Overview

### GANTNER's locker system functions

Depending on a company's needs, various operational modes can be configured for a GANTNER hard-wired locker system, from personally-assigned lockers which are simultaneously used as a secure employee mailbox, to the free locker mode where any member of staff can choose any locker. Additional features include an alarm function, and automatic opening function so that lockers can be cleaned or checked at night. The same cards used to open the lockers may also be used for entry to the building via a GANTNER access control system. For even greater convenience, GANTNER's latest function even offers clients the possibility to operate the locks via a Smart phone.



### Overview: Why choose GANTNER?

GANTNER's electronic locker solutions are suitable for every type of office locker, filing cabinet, or employee mailbox. With their reliability and ease of use, its lockers are especially suited to installations in large office buildings with a high number of work stations such as banks, insurance companies and universities.

Existing employee ID cards can be set to open the lockers, and can also be used at control points to gain access to the office, or as a time-recording device.

The locks can be seamlessly integrated into a new office lockers or retrofitted into existing lockers, depending on the client's needs and budget. A GANTNER system can also be easily integrated into a site's existing facility management software, eliminating the need for the client to purchase a whole new software system.

In today's competitive environment, both large and small organisations need to work smarter and leaner — making operational efficiencies where they can while still providing a secure and user-friendly environment for staff.

Providing lockers means that open-plan office spaces remain clear of clutter, and staff who are hot desking can simply clear their desk at the end of the day and safely store their work, sensitive documents, office supplies and personal belongings until their next shift. For employers, ABW working practices can help with staff and office cost efficiencies, and having a secure locker and access system is essential to support this environment.



## Project Data

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Wardrobe Lockers: 120 locks

GANTNER Products: Electronic networked locker locks  
GAT Lock Administration Software

Installation: GANTNER Office Australia

Completion: May 2013

Photos: Copyright by Hassell Studio

### Project 2 Banking Corporation:

Wardrobe Lockers: 2700 locks

GANTNER Products: Electronic networked locker locks  
GAT Lock Administration Software

Installation: GANTNER Office Australia

Completion: May 2013

Photos: Copyright by Banking Corporation

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