

# THE RETAIL observer

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AN EYE ON THE INDUSTRY SINCE 1970

**CES**

**INNOVATION  
BETTERS THE WORLD  
AT CES 2016**

**KBIS** 2016

**KBIS SETS THE  
PACE FOR 2016**  
Scores of Attendees,  
Exhibitors & Products

**Las Vegas  
Market**

Record Buyer  
Attendance, Highest  
Leasing Activity  
in 5 Years





**KBIS** 2016

KBIS 2016

# SETS PACE FOR 2016

with Scores of Attendees,  
Exhibitors and Products

10 PERCENT INCREASE IN SHOW  
ATTENDANCE IS GOOD NEWS  
FOR INDUSTRY OUTLOOK

THE KITCHEN AND BATH INDUSTRY SHOW (KBIS®), OWNED BY THE NATIONAL KITCHEN & BATH ASSOCIATION (NKBA®), DREW DESIGNERS, BUILDERS, DEALERS AND SUPPLIERS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND AROUND THE WORLD TO THE 2016 SHOW, HELD JAN. 19-21, 2016 IN LAS VEGAS. ALONG WITH 531 EXHIBITORS, EARLY ESTIMATES PUT ATTENDANCE FOR KBIS 2016 AT MORE THAN 10 PERCENT AHEAD OF LAST YEAR, INDICATING CONTINUED POSITIVE GROWTH FOR THE KITCHEN AND BATH INDUSTRY.



"The NKBA is proud to support Design and Construction Week as the kitchen and bath industry's vibrant business forum," says Bill Darcy, NKBA CEO. "The outstanding programming, top-notch learning opportunities, and the enthusiastic support of all our exhibitors at KBIS contribute to the event's success and help us to fulfill our association mission to educate, inform, collaborate and inspire."

As a founding member of Design & Construction Week®, and in collaboration with the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), KBIS co-located with the International Builders' Show (IBS) for the third annual mega event. The International Window Coverings Expo (IWCE), The International Surface Event – SURFACES and The Tile Expo again took part in this year's event. Early, unverified estimates show the 2016 Design & Construction Week® event drew more than 110,000 attendees and more than 500 members of the media.

"We are proud that this year's KBIS was one of the largest in the 50 year history of the show, featuring 128 new and additional exhibitors and an additional 30,000 net sq. ft. of exhibit and programming space," said Brian Pagel, VP, Kitchen & Bath, Emerald Expositions. "The overwhelming crowds provided insight into the

renewed confidence in the construction and design industry."

Scott McGillivray, HGTV personality and host of Income Property, led the first-ever DesignBites on the KBISNeXT Stage. The program allowed 14 chosen brands to showcase their newest innovations within three minutes, followed by a brief Q&A with the audience. The program was among several that took place on the show floor as part of KBISNeXT™, a branded area was a destination for discovering the next ideas, trends and innovations in the kitchen and bath industry. In addition to programming on the KBISNeXT Stage, the area also featured the FutureHAUS Bathroom presented by Virginia Tech, and the KBISNeXT Bar, where roundtable discussions, portfolio review sessions and the annual Champagne & Cupcakes kick-off event took place.

Several key kitchen and bath brands also made their return to KBIS after being absent for several years including: American Standard Brands, Fontana Forni USA, AGA Marvel, GROHE and LG Electronics. They joined more than 300 returning exhibitors and loyalty leaders—brands who have supported KBIS by exhibiting continuously over the past eight years—like Cosentino NA, Wellborn Cabinet Inc., ROHL LLC., Blum Inc., and Rev-A-Shelf.





#### BEST OF KBIS 2016 WINNERS ANNOUNCED

A group of five design professionals took to the halls to personally review each of the more than 150 products entered into the 2016 Kitchen and Bath Industry Show (KBIS) Best of KBIS Awards. Sponsored by Beautiful Kitchens & Baths, Traditional Home and Dream Kitchens & Baths, magazine brands from the Meredith Corporation, Best of KBIS entries were displayed in exhibitor booths and via a "larger than life" product walls located in the North and South Halls of the Las Vegas Convention Center.

The Best of KBIS 2016 award winners were announced on the KBISNeXT™ Stage in South Hall, they were:

- **Best in Show:** *Perfect Steam Washer with LuxCare Wash and SmartBoost Technology by Electrolux*
- **Best of Kitchen:** Gold – *Kaza Concrete by Walker Zanger*
- **Best of Kitchen:** Silver – *UPR 503 Undercounter Pullout Refrigerator by Liebherr*
- **Best of Bath:** Gold – *Vibrato Faucet, DXV by American Standard*
- **Best of Bath:** Silver – *Balletto by Robern*

"This year's crop of entries were at the height of innovation and trend-forward thinking," said Brian Pagel, VP Kitchen and Bath

Group, Emerald Expositions. "We thank the judges for the time they took to personally review each product and determine the best in new kitchen and bath products."

Judges for the 2016 Best of KBIS inc: Richard T. Anuskiewicz, Danielle Bohn, AKBD, Cheryl Kees Clendenon, Tony Izzo, CKD, and Corey Laurysen, MBA.

Also the Best of KBIS People's Choice Winners were revealed. KBIS asked visitors to tell them what their favorite kitchen and favorite bath products were from this year's show – and they delivered.

We're proud to announce that the winners of the Best of KBIS 2016 People's Choice Awards are:

- **Best in Kitchen:** Viking's Incogneeto™ Induction Warmer
- **Best in Bath:** Robern's Balletto Vanity

Congratulations to the winners and to all of the finalists.

Already more than 580 exhibitors are confirmed to exhibit within 332,000 net sq. footage at KBIS 2017, which debuts at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida on January 10-12, 2017.

To learn about the latest KBIS news and announcements, visit [www.KBIS.com](http://www.KBIS.com).

