

The Bench Note

What shipped, what is coming, and who is on the floor. Written on the first Tuesday of the month and pinned by the time clock.

SEP 2

The Alberta Street millwork left three days early.

Bay 2 closed out the Northwind counter, back bar and banquette on August 28 and it was on the truck by Friday morning — **nine and a half weeks against an eleven-week quote**, with five days lost waiting on stone that we made back on finishing. That is the tightest turn this shop has run on a job over \$30,000.

Install is September 9 to 11 in Portland; Riley and Theo are driving Monday. The second visit for the pass-through waits on the counters going in, so hold the stainless order until Maya confirms the template date.

AUG 6

The wide-belt sander is back, and it has a new hood.

Six weeks at the rebuilders in Buffalo: new platen, new drive belt, and a dust hood we drew ourselves and had folded locally. It pulls 640 CFM now against 380 before, and it is quieter than it has been since 2021. Eighty-grit stock now lives in the cabinet by bay 3, not on the mezzanine.

AUG 14

Two new benches: Theo Ramírez and Grace Okafor.

Theo comes from four years of stage carpentry at the Brooklyn Academy and starts on the Northwind install. Grace has run a finishing room before and takes over spray-booth scheduling from Riley on the 15th. Both are on bay 1 for the first fortnight. Say hello.

AUG 21

Install crews move to a four-day week in October.

Tuesday to Friday, ten-hour days, with Mondays kept for shop time, drawings and site surveys. The trial runs through December and we will look at the numbers in January. **The shop floor keeps its five-day week** — this is install only.

AUG 28

Bay 3 racking is white oak only from now on.

Walnut, ash and everything else moves to the mezzanine racks this week. This is not about tidiness: we lost most of a day in July finding a quartersawn lot that had three other species stacked on it. Every lot gets a job number on the end grain before it goes on a rack.

SHIPPED IN
AUGUST

Northwind Coffee Roasters — bar, back bar, banquette, Portland	Aug 28
Meridian Consulting — fourteen desks and a partners table	Aug 22
Fieldnotes — reception desk and the library wall	Aug 19
Brightline — retail fixtures for three doors	Aug 12
Private, Cobble Hill — kitchen, pantry and a window seat	Aug 7

THE MONTH ON
PAPER

BY THE NUMBERS

Jobs shipped	9
Board feet milled	4,180
Hours on the floor	1,412
On-time deliveries	8 of 9
Recordable incidents	0
Days since last rework	46

SEPTEMBER DIARY

Sep 4	Safety refresher, 7:30, bay 1 — everyone
Sep 9	Northwind install, Portland (Riley, Theo)
Sep 15	Booth down for filter change, all day
Sep 22	Open bench night, 6pm, bring your own
Sep 30	Quarter close — timesheets in by noon

WHO TO ASK

Shop drawings and CAD	Riley Thompson	Lumber orders and lot tags	Riley Thompson
Finishing and the spray booth	Grace Okafor	Machine faults	Board by bay 1
Install scheduling	Theo Ramírez	Timesheets and pay	payroll@stapleandoak

NEXT ISSUE

No. 42 goes up October 7. Anything you want in it — a job you are proud of, a jig worth stealing, a machine that needs looking at — leave it on the clipboard by the time clock or send it to bench@stapleandoak.com by the 25th.