

SOSSEGO TO HOST GRAND OPENING APRIL 7 AT CHICAGO'S MERCHANDISE MART

*The World's Largest Design Center to Welcome Award Winning Modern Brazilian
Furniture Designs by Aristeu Pires*

CHICAGO (March 24, 2016) - [The Design Center at the Merchandise Mart™](#) is excited to announce the grand opening of Sossego [so-SAY-go], the flagship North American showroom and exclusive distributor of Aristeu Pires' modern Brazilian designs in the U.S. On Thursday, April 7, 10am-2pm, designers, architects and other trade professionals are invited to explore the new Sossego showroom in Suite 1445 featuring the handcrafted, award-winning furniture of renowned Brazilian designer Aristeu Pires.

Attendees will be the first to experience Pires' furniture known for its contemporary design sensibility and warm Brazilian wood, while enjoying Brazilian treats and coffee with a happy Bossa Nova beat. The showroom was designed by renowned Porto Alegre architect, Leonardo Mader and exudes the warmth and tempo of Brazil. The design of the space is meant to compliment the showroom's South American roots including walls lined with backlit images of the lush Serra Gaúcha mountainous region in which the Jaquitibá hardwood grows, and is the home of Aristeu Pires' eponymous manufacturing facility.

"We're excited about the opening of Sossego as it brings a fresh vibe to the Design Center and provides our designers and trade clientele with access to the award winning, luxury furniture from Aristeu Pires," said Julia Chappell, Managing Director of Marketing, Vornado I Merchandise Mart.

Pires' talent for furniture design brought him acclaim even in his line's early years. In 2007, only six years after launching his furniture line, the Gisele Lounge chair won Brazil's prestigious "Museu da Casa Brasileira" award in the furniture category. Pires' pieces are individually manufactured in southern Brazil, fusing style and ease for enthusiastic clients around the globe.

"We are thrilled to feature Aristeu Pires as our anchor designer as we position Sossego to be the source for modern Brazilian design in the U.S.," said Managing Partner Jonathan Durling. "The timing of our launch is ideal as modern Brazilian design is emerging as an important trend in North America."

ABOUT THE DESIGN CENTER™ AT THE MERCHANDISE MART

The Design Center at The Merchandise Mart, located in Chicago's historic Merchandise Mart, is home to four floors constituting the world's largest and finest design center. As a leader in the \$65 billion residential home furnishings market, The Design Center offers the largest presentation of high-end, couture, home furnishings worldwide, all under one roof. Encompassing 650,000 square feet, boasting 115 showrooms and featuring more

than 2,500 product lines, it is the design professional's ultimate resource for luxury furniture, fabrics, floor coverings, wall coverings, lighting, antiques and much more. For more information visit, designcenter.com