



RAJESH KUMAR

**GUEST COLUMN**

SONALI RASTOGI AND ASHISH VADEHRA

# OFFICE DESIGN SHOULD BOOST TEAM SPIRIT

Today's work force is not just looking for offices with brains but ones with senses, too. Here's looking at technology that caters to both.

A typical office today does not look very different to, say, what it looked like five years or may be even 10 years ago. One very obvious difference, however, is the degree of technology embedded within them. This, by far, would seem to be the one common factor dictating the design of not just office spaces but almost all buildings in the years to come.

The desired office environment is increasingly becoming a space that is self-sufficient in every respect and promotes a high level of efficiency and flexibility in space planning, human resource management and facilities management. It should also be able to accommodate the highly fluid character of the modern work force and have scope for expansion.

We live in a world which, in a lot of respects, is becoming boundary-less thanks to the communications revolution over the past few years. This is leading to a complete paradigm shift. The office worker today is far more connected with the outside than ever before. This would include concepts like e-mails and instant messaging. Today, we are communicating far more by way of typing than by speech or physical interactions and it requires the design to equip itself to be able to handle such shifts.



**Leveraging high technology:** One very obvious difference