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**GOURMET™ WORK SHELF SINKS – ELEVATING ERGONOMICS**  
*Elkay's New Sinks "Support" Every Kitchen Task*

OAK BROOK, IL – May 2009 – A recent study conducted by the Research Institute for Cooking & Kitchen Intelligence (RICKI) called “Kitchen Intelligence: A Designer’s Perspective,” noted the growing popularity of downsized kitchens. Designers participating in the 2008 study have observed a move away from “McMansions” and huge kitchens toward smaller, more efficient kitchens and the “less is more” philosophy. As a kitchen and bath industry and trend leader, Elkay® created the Gourmet Work Shelf sink to provide homeowners with the stylish and efficient sink solution they crave, by allowing users to more easily cook, prep, thaw, rinse, store, clean-up and air dry items in the kitchen.

Elkay is the only manufacturer to offer a built in Smart Support Shelf System™, which positions a stainless steel work shelf four inches from the top of the sink compartment, without compromising any of the sink’s bowl capacity. The system is carefully positioned at this height as it is a common, ergonomic height for an average person to rinse a pot or colander and air dry glasses or pans securely, while maintaining a comfortable depth for food preparation and cleanup. The work shelf can hold 25 pounds or more and will not tip or shift out of position, even when a heavy object is placed off center. Designed in a sturdy, yet stylish gridded pattern, the heavy duty stainless steel work shelf also includes rubber grips on its perimeter to protect the sides of the sink.

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“Everyone has a kitchen sink, but with Gourmet Work Shelf sinks they will have a sink solution that does more than simply hold water,” notes Ann Rottinghaus, Elkay’s marketing communications manager. “Elkay created the three new work shelf sinks from popular models in our existing Gourmet family, as the sink family’s simple style and design can easily blend into a wide variety of home décors from contemporary to traditional to transitional, extending installation opportunities,” Rottinghaus continued.

Made from ultra-thick, durable 18 gauge stainless steel and finished in Elkay’s Polished Stainless Steel, the Gourmet Work Shelf sinks also feature Elkay’s patented Sound Guard<sup>®</sup> insulation to ensure a peaceful experience at the sink. Also, Elkay’s stainless steel sinks are created from up to 80 percent recycled material and as a sustainable material, stainless steel will not only last a lifetime, but is one of few materials that will not degrade upon recycling. The Specialty Steel Industry of North America [SSINA] states that the average useful life for a stainless steel product is 30 years.

The Gourmet Work Shelf sinks are available in three undermount options - a double bowl model with two equal compartments (ELUHWS3118) at either an eight inch or 10 inch bowl depth, a second double bowl model with one compartment larger front to back than the other (ELUHWS3120L/ELUHWS3120R) and single bowl style that can be used as a prep or hospitality/bar sink. Also, Elkay offers wavy wire bottom grids and cutting boards as additional optional accessories.

The MSRP pricing for the Gourmet Work Shelf sinks ranges from \$650 to \$1,200. Also, the Elkay Gourmet Work Shelf sinks can be paired with a variety of Elkay faucets, such as the contemporary new Allure<sup>®</sup> single-lever stainless steel faucet in a

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Satin Stainless Steel finish (LK7922SSS – MSRP \$649) with side spray.

For more than 89 years, Elkay has been an innovative manufacturer of stainless steel sinks, water coolers, drinking fountains and faucets for residential and commercial use. Elkay, which is ranked 57th in *Crain's Chicago Business* list of Chicago's Largest Privately-Held Companies, has more than 3,600 employees in facilities across the United States and select international markets. Elkay is also a member of key industry associations including the U.S. Green Building Council [USGBC], the American Society of Interior Designers [ASID], the National Kitchen & Bath Association [NKBA], and the Plumbing Manufacturers' Institute [PMI].

Headquartered in Oak Brook, Illinois, Elkay is also the parent company of E.B. Tecnica Mexicana<sup>®</sup>, Phylrich<sup>®</sup> International and Elkay Zhuhai. Elkay is America's number one selling stainless steel sink company. The Elkay Manufacturing Cabinetry Division is the fourth largest cabinet manufacturer in the U.S. with its Yorktowne<sup>®</sup> Cabinetry, Medallion<sup>®</sup> Cabinetry and Mastercraft<sup>®</sup> Cabinets holdings.

For more information, Elkay customers can contact Elkay customer service at (630) 572-3192 or visit [elkayusa.com](http://elkayusa.com). For media inquiries, contact Maureen Brennan at (312) 946-6075 or view our electronic press kit on [elkayusa.com](http://elkayusa.com).

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