



Aurora Bijoux, a re-edition of **Devon&Devon's** Aurora model, is a freestanding tub with double raised back that rests on four aluminium spheres. The tub is made of White Tec, an exclusive, finely-crafted mix that is available in a white and cream version. Polished nickel finish spheres are available in chrome, light gold and antique copper. Circle No. 183 on Product Card



Enhancing its Swirl-way Luxury Series, **Mansfield Plumbing** combines whirlpool jets and an air massage bath into one system with its Swirl-way Combination Whirlpool and Air Massage Bath System. Available in 13 models, the bath system includes an in-line heater, adjustable jets, chromatherapy system and Hydro-V backjet system. Circle No. 184 on Product Card



The form of **Clarke Architectural's** Lunar bathtub is concave and without edges, which creates a deep soaking bath experience for one or two people. Available in 71"- and 66"-wide models, Lunar is available in matte or satin white, as well as newer colors matte or polished sleek concrete, raw concrete and fresh concrete. Circle No. 185 on Product Card



The Townsend freestanding bathtub's finished flat back provides the option of installing it against the wall to save space. Showcasing clean angles, the **American Standard** tub can also be positioned as the centerpiece of a bathroom, accented with either a floor or deck-mount tub filler. Circle No. 186 on Product Card



**Graff** has expanded its Finezza collection to include a coordinating sink and bathtub, constructed using the firm's Sleek-Stone material, which combines 75% natural dolomitic minerals with a resin. The tub is available in Gloss Sleek-Stone or Matte Sleek-Stone finishes that accentuate the tub's Art Deco-inspired trapezoidal shape. Circle No. 187 on Product Card



The new Escape Series by **Bestbath** features walk-in tubs with soothing hydrotherapy, the safety of a grab bar, super low entry with non-skid floor and quick drain technology. The line includes three sizes, with options including soaker, air/water jet or microbubbles. Circle No. 188 on Product Card



Angular and squared, the 4131 Navona solid surface bathtub by **Cheviot Products** sports a modern geometric look. Made of composite resin and hand polished to a glossy sheen, the Navona showcases an elegant rim profile. The bathtub's composite resin construction provides insulation that keeps the water warmer for a longer time. Circle No. 189 on Product Card



**Kohler's** Veil bathroom collection carries a modern, minimalist vibe blended with gentle lines and sculpted asymmetrical shapes. The Veil freestanding bath is ergonomically designed with balanced curves and a depth that allows for full immersion. Circle No. 190 on Product Card

an Aqua Moment Waterfall, which uses curtain flow technology to deliver a soft veil of warm water from an elongated spout, wrapping the bather in warm, flowing water. Already popular in Japan, this technology creates a stimulating water experience for the user, enhancing relaxation, while requiring less water than a deep soaking tub."

**COMFORTABLE ACCESSIBILITY**

Designers and homeowners are paying closer attention to what will be needed in terms of accessibility, either immediately or somewhere down the road. With homeowners increasingly wanting to age in place, looking to the future is essential.

"When planning bathroom spaces, homeowners are considering their future just as much as their present needs, and accessibility is big consideration, especially in the shower," Orellana says. They also consider whether they will be caring for a loved one with physical limitations, she points out. "Changing the shower to a no- or low-threshold [model] and adding wider doorways are just two of the long-term accessibility choices they are making. They're also adding steam showers for the many wellness benefits they provide at any age."

"As the population ages, we're seeing more interest in features designed to accommodate users with mobility issues," states L'Henaff. "Accessible design can be incorporated into hydrotherapy products in a

variety of ways, from full-coverage, slip-resistant surfaces to walk-in tubs that offer luxurious whirlpool, air bath and combo massage systems with convenient outward opening doors for full accessibility."

Moir adds that popular hydrotherapy features are incorporated into many accessible products, including walk-in bathtubs. "They come with lighting, jetting and experience options, just like traditional bathtubs do. At Jacuzzi Luxury Bath, we try to build hidden accessibility features into standard products, such as wider decks on freestanding bathtubs and grab bars in drop-in bathtubs to facilitate entry and exit," she notes.

Strang says, "There are several manufacturers working very diligently to make the 'walk-in tub' more accommodating of that user." He adds that walk-in tubs have a couple of unique challenges: the need to fill quickly at a temperature comfortable for the user, who has to get in while the tub is empty; and the need to empty quickly to allow the user to exit.

All of these considerations have manufacturers becoming more aware of and attentive to accessibility demands. Clarke sees a growing awareness on the part of consumers to build in accessibility features even if they don't yet need them. There's more future thinking about whether they will need it later, he believes.

"The addition of accessible options in the bathing category is helping consumers keep their bathing routines, even with changing mobility," concludes Pereira. ■