

Stone World

Fabricator E-News

Brought to you by *Stone World* magazine

February 9, 2011



The banner features a diamond-shaped logo with 'NDI' inside on the left. The middle section has an orange background with the text 'NOW AVAILABLE, ONLY at GranQuartz.com'. The right section has a black background with 'GranQuartz' in large white letters. Below this is a row of various industrial diamond tools and components.

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Industry Insight

It's all in the details: Innovations at StonExpo

by **Michael Reis, Editor**

Whenever I go to a large-scale trade event, I am always impressed with the advances in stoneworking technology. Whether it is a new CNC bridge saw or an advanced piece of polishing equipment, it seems that there is always something new on the show floor -- complete with a half-dozen fabricators looking on with their nose pressed against the window of the machine (well, sort of). At StonExpo/Marmomacc Americas a couple of weeks ago, however, I was struck by some of the smaller details that exhibitors were addressing with their new innovations at the event. [Read more](#)



Inside the Shop

BC Stone - Everett, PA/Wilmington, NC

by **Kelly Martin, Editorial Assistant**

After working as stone fabricators and artisans in the Washington/Baltimore area for several years, Rodney Bair and Travis Collins decided to break away and begin their own company in 1993. The resulting company, BC Stone, is now a full-production fabricator with its main operation in Everett, PA, and a second shop in Wilmington, NC. [Read more](#)



StoneWorks - Bluffton/Hilton Head Island, SC

by **Michael Reis, Editor**

**Better!
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Since its foundation 23 years ago, StoneWorks of Hilton Head Island and Bluffton, SC, has placed a special emphasis on quality, organization and craftsmanship. Earlier this year, the family-owned company received acknowledgment of its commitment to the trade with its designation as a Marble Institute of America (MIA) Accredited Natural Stone Fabricator. [Read more](#)



Fabricator Issue of the Month

Fabricating Technology Roundup - Tooling and Accessories

by Michael Reis, Editor

In the U.S. and across the world, suppliers for the tooling and accessories for stoneworking are developing new introductions for stone fabricators. These include advances in diamond blades and abrasives, polishing pads, water treatment systems, vacuum and handling equipment, and more. The following is a look at some of the latest advances in the field. [Full technology roundup](#)

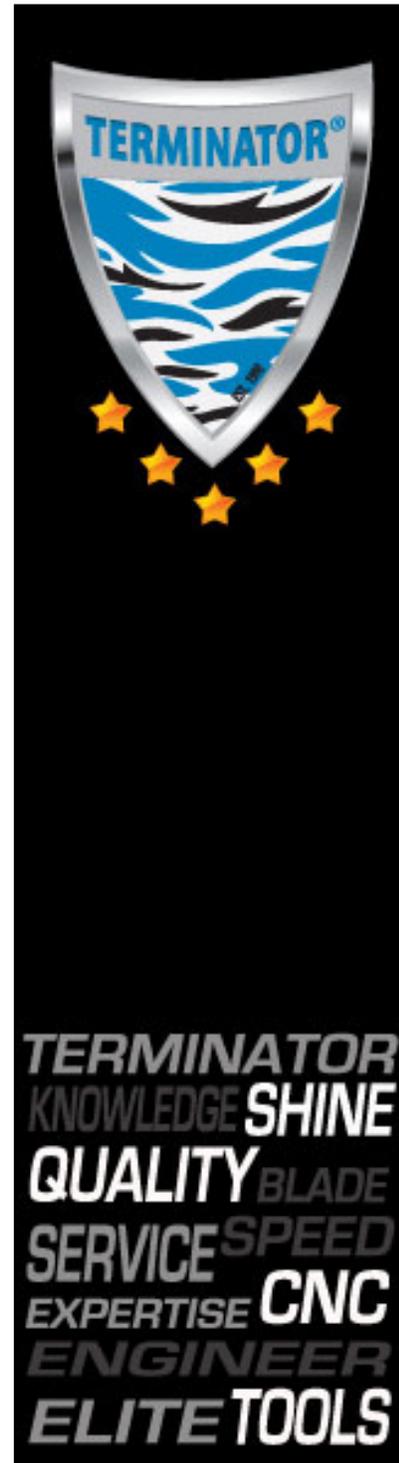


Project Spotlight

From the quarry to the kitchen

by Michael Reis, Editor

Before a finished countertop is finally installed in a new kitchen or bathroom setting, the stone material goes through the lengthy process of extraction, processing, export to the U.S., fabrication and finally -- delivery to the jobsite. The following is a look at two long-time stone quarriers and processors in Brazil, with details on their quarrying and processing information as well as a look at some stunning finished countertop work.



Marbrasa: A pioneer in the Brazilian stone industry

Founded in 1968 by Camilo Cola, Marbrasa Marmores e Granitos do Brasil Ltda. of Cachoeiro de Itapemirim, Espírito Santo, Brazil, was one of the first Brazilian companies to produce stone on an international level. With a broad range of quarries and state-of-the-art production facilities, the company continues to export material to destinations around the world. [Read more](#)



Pemagran: 10 years of Iberê Crema Bordeaux

For 10 years, Mineração Pemagran has been extracting Iberê Crema Bordeaux from its quarry in Afonso Claudio, Espírito Santo, Brazil. During this time, the material has gained international appeal for its aesthetic value and its ability to be used in a variety of design styles. [Read more](#)



Shop How-To

Fabricator Forum: Difficult jobsites forum

moderated by Michael Reis, Editor

Q: I was just driving down a very busy - but residential - road near my office here in New Jersey, and I saw a pick-up truck parked halfway on the curb and halfway blocking traffic. Turns out it was carrying some pretty fragile-looking stonework - specifically a white marble tub surround. I was thinking that among all of the challenges for countertop installers, I never thought about having to deal with automobile traffic. I wanted to stick around and watch how they handled it, but honestly, there was nowhere that I could stop.

It would be great to hear about some of the various jobsite challenges you guys have encountered and how you were able to overcome them. [Read responses](#)



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Industry Happenings

Rock of Ages invests in future of Bethel White Quarry

by **Michael Reis, Editor**

Dating back to the 1800s, the Bethel White Quarry in Bethel, VT, is a staple among the sites owned and operated by Rock of Ages Corp. Currently, the quarry is undergoing an extensive development effort to maintain its long-standing history of high-quality production well into the future. [Read more](#)



Coverings 2011 set for Las Vegas

Scheduled for March 14 to 17, 2011 at the Sands Expo and Convention Center in Las Vegas, NV, Coverings 2011 will draw thousands of visitors from around the world to view the latest lines of stone and tile offerings, along with a full range of machinery, tools, accessories and installation and maintenance products. [Read more](#)



RemnantSwap Developed as a Means to Buy and Sell Stone Remnants

RemnantSwap was been developed as a place to buy and sell granite remnants with fabricators in their area. The online service can be found at www.RemnantSwap.com, and it was developed by Moraware, the stone industry's leading provider of job tracking inventory and management software. The goal of the system is to make it as fast and easy as possible to post and find remnants. Instead of being the middlemen, the goal of RemnantSwap is to simply provide a Web site as a service to the industry. The company does not charge for the service, and it doesn't take a percentage of the transaction.

When buying granite, users simply search for the granite color that they are looking for. Results are then ranked by how close they are to the buyer's location. The user can then call or e-mail the fabricator that is selling the remnant.

To sell a remnant, users need to create an account at www.remnantswap.com/signup to enter their location and contact information. They can then enter their remnants into the system. If the seller is



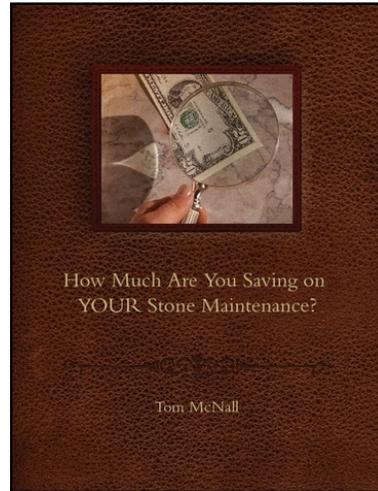
already using a spreadsheet or software to track the pieces, they can simply copy and paste them in all at once. If material is being tracked by hand, they can be hand-entered into the system. Over 10,000 remnants have already been listed on the site, and that number is expected to increase significantly in the coming months.



AEC Store Corner

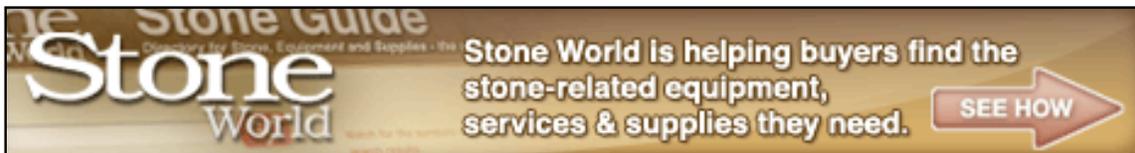
How Much Are You Saving on YOUR Stone Maintenance, by Tom McNall - \$285.00

Images of the destruction caused by re-crystallization of marble and stone floors by inexperienced technicians. Each page comes with a description of the damage and direct questions for the property owner/manager to reflect on. Great for hotels, gaming and malls to see what can happen by taking the lowest bid.



This is the same book that Tom uses to educate his commercial maintenance specifiers on the dangers of crystallization and low budget stone care. Direct questions and vivid full color pictures help them to realize where they are sacrificing their investment for band-aid fixes. Leave the album with executives and managers for one week to compare case studies with their own floor and they will immediately see the damage in their own buildings before their very eyes. A picture speaks a thousand words. This pictorial journey will speak tens of thousands of dollars to your bottom line. Anyone who knows what is best for stone, the customer and how to polish properly will easily see the value in this sales tool [Follow this link](#) to order!

Visit AECstore.com to view all of our resources for the Stone Industry. Call Stephanie at 248-244-1275 with any questions.





This edition of **Stone World Fabricator e-News** was sent to you because of your expressed interest in natural stone and ceramic tile. This monthly e-newsletter offers industry updates, application features, practical tips, and commentary on stone and tile design, sent directly to your inbox. We welcome you to a readership of architects, interior designers, specifiers and consumers.

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