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STONE & TILE design INSIDER

Brought to you by *Contemporary Stone & Tile Design*

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Notes from the Field

Coverings provides a microcosm of the industry

by Jennifer Adams, Editor

As we are in an economic recession, it was not surprising that Coverings 2009 lacked the hustle and bustle of years past. The aisles were a little more sparse due to the noticeable downsize of many exhibition booths and the absence of some past exhibitors all together. But despite these difficult times, the show, which was held at McCormick Place in Chicago from April 21 to 24, was not all doom and gloom. While certainly not overwhelming, there was some optimism among exhibitors and attendees. To read more, [click here](#).



Featured Product

ECO™ by Cosentino

Cosentino, a leading manufacturer of quartz surfacing and one of the world's largest natural stone importers, recently launched ECO™ by Cosentino, a revolutionary new line of countertop and surfacing material composed of 75% recycled material. For more information on the product, [click here](#).



Product Reviews

Coverings 2009 Product Review

A vertical banner with a red background. At the top, the text 'CERAMIC TILES OF ITALY PAVILION' is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. Below this, 'MAY 16-19' and 'ICFE NEW YORK' are written in smaller white capital letters, followed by 'BOOTH 1420-1531'. At the bottom, there is a white rectangular area containing the 'ITALIA Italian Trade Commission' logo, the 'Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico' logo, and the 'Ceramic Tiles of Italy' logo which features a red tree silhouette.

by Alexis Fisher, Associate Editor

The 20th edition of Coverings, which is dedicated to showcasing the newest in ceramic tile and natural stone, returned to the McCormick Place Convention Center in Chicago, IL, from April 21 to 24. Numerous stone and tile manufacturers came to exhibit their latest innovations to a worldwide market. For a sampling of the many innovative products that were launched at Coverings 2009, [click here](#).



Project Spotlight

Porcelain tile contributes to crisp office design

by Alexis Fisher, Associate Editor

When designing its own workspace, the design firm of MKDA in New York, NY, desired a contemporary clean look. Contributing to this design goal, 24- x 24-inch Celador white porcelain tiles were selected for the flooring in the entrance spaces, including the elevator lobby and reception area. [Full article](#)



Travertine completes modern home design

by Alexis Fisher, Associate Editor

A recent construction of a private residence in Shelter Island, NY, made extensive use of Israeli travertine - supplied by West End Stone in New York, NY. The selected stone takes advantage of heat from the home's abundant natural light, as the design of the structure called for glass window walls on all four sides of the home. [Full article](#)



Green Design

Cold Spring Granite awarded LEED® Gold green building certification

COLD SPRING, MN -- Cold Spring Granite Co., a leading quarry and fabricator of natural stone in North America, has announced that its new 22,500-square-foot corporate headquarters received LEED Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the USGBC's leading rating system for designing and constructing the world's greenest, most energy efficient and high-performing buildings. To read more, [click here](#).



Walker Zanger unveils new "green" tile collection

The new Kesh Collection from Walker Zanger re-imagines the traditional art of cement tile, creating a bold statement for floors, walls and outdoor spaces. The fresh and graphic designs blend the influences of many styles, but finds its primary muse in Mid-Century Modern and Hollywood Regency, reports the company. Yet Kesh is also in harmony with the planet, as the eco-friendly tiles are made with "green" materials such as cement and marble dust, and hand-crafted with the aid of low-energy manufacturing processes, according to Walker Zanger. To read more, [click here](#).



Industry News and Events

Coverings 2009 in Chicago

by Jennifer Adams, Editor

CHICAGO, IL -- Up against an economic slowdown, the turnout for Coverings 2009, which was held from April 21 to 24 at McCormack Place in Chicago, IL, was uncertain. But despite a drop in attendance, the exhibition received a high level of sales interest and activity on the show floor, reports National Trade Productions (NTP), the manager and producer of the event. [Full article](#)



Ceramic Tiles of Italy at ICFE

NEW YORK, NY -- Year after year, more than 25,000 design aficionados from all over the world descend upon New York City for the International Contemporary Furniture Fair (ICFF). The show, which runs from May 16 to 19, 2009 at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, is considered the premier platform for modern design and cutting edge products for the home and contract markets. And among the numerous exhibitors at this year's event will be Ceramic Tiles of Italy. To read more, [click here](#).

ASCER organizes conferences about Tile of Spain & Architecture at Harvard Graduate School of Design

by Jennifer Adams, Editor

CAMBRIDGE, MA -- ASCER, the Spanish Ceramic Tile Manufacturers' Association, has organized a series of conferences about ceramics in architecture, which are scheduled to take place at Harvard Graduate School of Design. The conferences are part of a series of activities designed for ASCER to strengthen the relationship between the association and Harvard in order to promote a better understanding between the two institutions. It is hoped that this will lead to closer collaboration in the future, such as setting up a Ceramic Tile Studies (CTS) department at the University. In fact, industry experts Eduardo de Miguel and architect Jesús Aparicio, who head the CTS departments at Madrid and Valencia, respectively, and Javier Mira, who is the head of the architecture department at the Institute of Ceramic Tile Technology, will be at Harvard to run training sessions with the teaching team at the prestigious

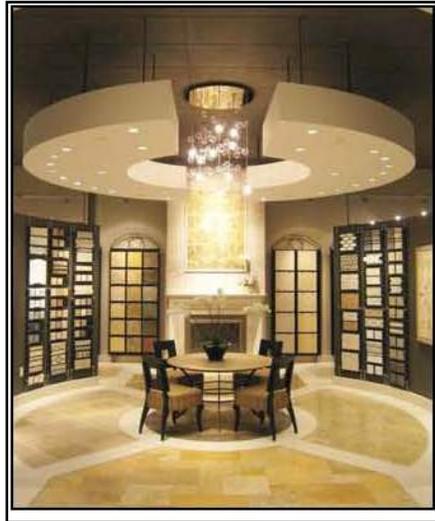


school to improve their understanding of ceramic as a material and its potential in architecture.

[Full article](#)

Walker Zanger opens its largest Southern California showroom

SYLMAR, CA -- Walker Zanger recently announced the opening of its largest Southern California showroom in Tustin, CA. The more than 60,000-square-foot facility replaces the former Costa Mesa, CA, location. The showroom houses 25 signature Walker Zanger vignettes, a natural stone slab warehouse, soaring architectural elements and impressive design details such as a 14-foot-high limestone fireplace. The facility also boasts energy efficient and "green" elements. To read more, [click here](#).



Industry Events

Specialized events for architecture and design professionals are offered throughout the year, including general design events and others that are geared specifically to the stone and tile fields. For a look at upcoming industry events, [click here](#)

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