



Recycled Toilets Find a Home

EnviroGLAS Products Inc.

For Release June 2006

Thinking outside the box is something EnviroGLAS Products principal Tim Whaley does well. Nicknamed "Scrappy" by the Dallas Business Journal, the Texas entrepreneur was granted a U.S. patent in 2003 for developing the 'method of making a terrazzo surface from recycled glass.' The idea for combining the multi-colored crystals with epoxy resin to create recycled glass terrazzo came to him after he saw a news story in July 2002 about Plano, Texas's overabundance of crushed recycled glass.

Two years and several awards later (including the Recycling Alliance of Texas's 2003 "Closing the Loop Program" award and the Texas Environmental Excellence Award for small business in 2005) Whaley is at it again. This time it was the City of Dallas who asked him if he could do anything with a bunch of old toilets and commodes. The juices started flowing and soon EnviroMODE™ was born.

This brand new terrazzo surface made from chips of used (and cleaned) toilets is stunningly beautiful, durable and eco-friendly. Available in any color made by Sherwin Williams or Benjamin Moore, the bone-colored porcelain looks fantastic in earth tones and various shades of white epoxy resin, and really pops in bold resin colors like black, red, yellow and blue.

"I am always looking for companies that are creating new and innovative products from recycled materials," said City of Dallas Recycling Manager Sherlyn McAnally. "The crushed porcelain has a beautiful pearl-like finish and can be used in a versatile array of applications," she noted.

EnviroGLAS offers EnviroMODE terrazzo as well as their recycled glass terrazzo finishes in a countertop product called EnviroSLAB™ and in rectangular tiles called EnviroPLANK™ for flooring, walls and other creative uses. Both the recycled glass and porcelain can also be used as aggregate in traditional poured in place terrazzo flooring. What's more, the two types of aggregate can be mixed together for a more complex design.

The first installation of an EnviroMODE EnviroSLAB is in a Chicago area home basement, the renovation of which will air on the HGTV program "New Spaces". The basement remodel creates a warm and welcoming, and also environmentally friendly family room and media/entertainment center with an adjacent bathroom where EnviroMODE is the focal point. "This material is a very ingenious product and a great way to 'close the loop' in recycling," said project designer Karen Kaplan. "And it's great looking as well," she added.

Heat and scratch resistant, EnviroMODE and EnviroGLAS surfaces are highly resistant to common stains and are easily cleaned with neutral cleansers. The products are VOC-free and do not require a seal.

EnviroGLAS® Products Inc. converts post-consumer and industrial glass and other waste products bound for the landfill into elegant, sustainable and ecological hard surfaces and

landscaping materials. A recent independent analysis found that of the 69 LEED points available, EnviroGLAS Terrazzo can contribute to 7 or more.

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