

Better for Building. Better for the Environment.



Introducing
emerald  system™

**North America's leading provider of Tile & Stone Installation Systems.
Manufacturing products with recycled materials for nearly a decade.**



Custom Building Products.

Better for building. Better for the environment.

Custom Building Products is committed to environmental responsibility - in our products and manufacturing practices. We're continually searching for ways to reduce the burden on our environment and promote sustainability in everything we do. Natural stone and ceramic tile are known for their durability and long life over other floor covering options. Custom Building Products designs highly durable products with warranties that reduce the need for frequent replacement and provide the tile installation with a long lifecycle.

Biodegradable Products: Products, like cleaners, in our tile and stone care program are formulated to be biodegradable for natural recycling.

Local Plant Locations: Regional production of Custom Building Products' products reduces transportation and fuel consumption. Eleven manufacturing locations throughout the country means that most tile installation projects are within 500 miles of one of our facilities.

Environmentally Responsible Facilities: We conduct regular environmental assessments of air, water and solid waste emissions at each facility, seeking ways to reduce pollution and operate more cleanly and efficiently. Our review of environmental impact is an important part of our corporate planning.

Reduce Energy consumption and Excess Waste: Custom adheres to tight, self-imposed requirements to minimize waste and pollution at every facility, and all manufacturing and distribution facilities follow stringent energy conservation guidelines. Waste is reduced through source reduction and recycling of scrap materials. Remaining waste is disposed of by safe, environmentally responsible means. Solid airborne particles in Custom's facilities are captured and recycled, so that they don't end up in landfills, and waste is never permitted to enter the waterways.

Custom is a leader in the construction industry, supplying our customers with environmentally-friendly products and peace of mind that they are contributing to a cleaner world.



BUILD GREEN®

Contributes to "Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design" certification.

Over 100 Custom products help contribute to LEED® certification in at least one of three categories. For specific LEED information, please visit our website.

1. Products with low Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's)

- ▶ Low VOC emitting materials contribute to indoor environmental quality.
- ▶ EQc4.1 & 4.2 Low VOC Emitting Materials

2. Recycled Materials

- ▶ Custom Building Products uses post-consumer and pre-consumer recycled materials whenever possible in manufacturing our tile and stone installation products. Utilizing recycled materials helps conserve natural resources and reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills. The use of lightweight recycled glass in our CustomLite® products helps to conserve energy because these products require less fuel for transport.
- ▶ MRc4 Recycled Content

3. Regional Product Manufacturing

- ▶ Local manufacturing and raw materials are harvested from within 500 miles of the project site. Eleven locations throughout the country means that most projects are within this range.
- ▶ MRc5 Regional Materials



Look for products with our Build Green® logo.

Don't Just Go Green. Go Emerald.

Emerald System is Custom's complete system of environmentally responsible products for all surface preparation, setting solutions and grout products. It expands our Build Green program by addressing some key issues related to the practice of green building products:

- 1. Agency Compliance** – Eliminates the confusion around green agency compliance; *Emerald System products are guaranteed to comply with all leading environmental agency certifications.*
- 2. System Warranty** – Assures quality warranty programs for products used; *The Emerald System can be eligible for our Lifetime Installations Systems Warranty.*
- 3. Greenhouse Gas Reduction** – Addresses the issue of CO₂ production from installation products manufacturing; *Emerald System products are the first to offer Carbon Offset Credits.*

Emerald System products are compliant with:

- USGBC (United States Green Building Council)
- CALGreen (California Green Building Standards Code)
- ANSI ICC-700 (American National Standards Institute)
- IGCC (Pending Approval – International Green Code Council)
- TCNA (Pending Approval — Tile Council of North America)

Our Emerald System takes environmental responsibility to a whole new level.

ISSUE

Agency Compliance - Overlapping green building agencies cause confusion regarding which initiatives are needed for compliance. The landscape is changing on a regular basis with regional and national organizations making rules and recommendations regarding environmental manufacturing practices and products.

Solution

All Emerald System products have recycled material content and low VOC content for compliance with all major green building initiatives. This eliminates any question as to whether any of the products are compliant.

ISSUE

Installation Systems Warranty - There are warranty concerns over products with recycled materials. Will products with recycled material perform as well as products that are produced with conventional materials?

Solution

All Emerald System products tie into our existing warranty system. When used as a complete system, these products can be eligible for our Lifetime Warranty, guaranteeing your installation will be free from defects for up to a lifetime.

ISSUE

Greenhouse Gases – It is believed that the main contributor to global warming is the increase of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, with the largest contributor being carbon dioxide (CO₂). Many industrial processes emit CO₂ into the environment — the most prominent being the manufacturer of Portland Cement. Portland Cement is used in most major construction, including installation of ceramic tile.

Solution

The Emerald System is the first installation system to contribute to a long-term solution to the emission of CO₂ resulting from Portland Cement production by offering Carbon Offset Credits.

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Tile Installation and the Environment.

Many Scientists believe that the main contributor to global warming is the increase of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Although there are several gases that are classified as greenhouse gases, the largest contributor is Carbon Dioxide (CO₂).

What has caused the increase in CO₂ in our Atmosphere?

- ▶ The primary cause is industrialization.
- ▶ 30 billion tons of CO₂ is released into our atmosphere every year. Most of this comes from burning fuel for transportation and to produce energy.
- ▶ The production of Portland cement is one of the largest contributors to CO₂ in the industrial sector, emitting 600 million tons annually.

How does installing tile or stone release CO₂ into the atmosphere?

Most of the Portland cement is used to construct buildings and roadways. Traditional thin-set mortars and grouts contain Portland cement.

What is Custom Building Products doing to reduce CO₂ emissions?

- ▶ We are looking for alternatives to Portland cement that will not affect the performance or the way you install tile.
- ▶ We are working with our Portland cement suppliers to find alternative manufacturing processes.

What are Carbon Credits and how are they used?

- ▶ In 2005 the Kyoto Protocol was established to reduce greenhouse gases worldwide and has been adopted by many countries throughout the world. Part of the Kyoto Protocol was the establishment of international trading of Carbon Credits.
- ▶ Purchases of these Carbon Credits support the construction and operation of tangible greenhouse gas reduction projects.
 - ▶ Establishment of wind energy farms to replace the burning of fossil fuels
 - ▶ Construction of facilities to capture methane from landfills and dairy farms and convert to usable energy.
 - ▶ Reforestation replaces CO₂ absorbing trees that were cut for lumber.



The Emerald System is the first installation system to contribute to a long-term solution to the emission of CO₂ resulting from Portland Cement production by offering Carbon Offset Credits.

Custom Building Products has partnered with TerraPass, a leading Carbon Management Service, to obtain Carbon Offset Credits.

- ▶ By utilizing a full Emerald System of underlayment, thin-set mortar, and grout, Custom will obtain Carbon Offset Credits from TerraPass. TerraPass then uses the funds to support projects that reduce CO₂ emissions.
- ▶ Reducing the greenhouse gas emissions around the world helps stop global warming and its affect on our environment.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

When a warranty is registered with Emerald System products, Custom will issue Carbon Offset Credits to the project owner.



Emerald System Products. Environmentally responsible and user-friendly.

LevelLite® Self-Leveling Underlayment

40% lighter than other self-leveling underlayments, so it's easier to carry and pour.

- Seeks its own level in minutes
- Excellent for installations where weight is a concern
- Cures fast and will not shrink or crack

EBM-Lite® Epoxy Bonding Mortar - 100% Solids

A 3-part, water-washable mortar for installations requiring exceptionally high strength, chemical and impact resistance.

- 100% Solids Epoxy system's unique formula produces a mortar with greater bond and compressive strengths — plus improved chemical and stain resistance over conventional cement or emulsion-based setting systems.
- For use with resin-backed or moisture sensitive stone
- Exceeds ANSI A118.3

MegaLite® Crack Prevention Mortar

The ultimate in bond strength for demanding installation requirements with flexibility to withstand horizontal substrate movement up to 1/8".

- 40% lighter than other mortars, it provides excellent handling characteristics and offers non-sag/non-slip installation on walls.
- Non-slump for heavy floor applications
- Rapid Setting one part formula available
- Exceeds ANSI A118.4 & A118.11

ProLite® Tile & Stone Mortar

High flexibility and bond strength in a lightweight formula with excellent handling characteristics.

- Ideal for setting large format tile or stone
- High flexibility and bond strength
- Non-slip for wall applications
- Use as a thin-set or medium-bed mortar, up to 3/4" thick on floors.
- Rapid Setting formula includes advanced control cure for fast track installations.
- Meets ANSI A118.4 & A118.11

Prism® SureColor® Grout:

This unique formula sets a new standard for high performance, cement-based grout technology.

- Offers consistent color without shading regardless of tile type, temperature or humidity
- No efflorescence
- Lightweight and made with recycled material
- Meets ANSI A118.7

CEG-Lite™ Commercial Epoxy Grout

A 2-part, 100% solids epoxy grout that's easy to work and uniform in color.

- Exceptionally stain resistant, impermeable, and non-flammable
- Highly resistant to acids, alkalis and most solvents
- Offers maximum protection against staining and chemical attack. Exceeds ANSI A118.3





About TerraPass Inc.™

Launched in 2004, TerraPass works with developers of greenhouse gas reduction projects to bring to market renewable energy and independently verified carbon offsets. TerraPass manages a portfolio of more than 20 emissions reduction projects across the United States, primarily focused on waste-to-energy. With projects registered under the Climate Action Reserve and the Voluntary Carbon Standard, the company is an award-winning provider of carbon offsets and serves both voluntary and compliance buyers.



LIFETIME WARRANTIES

We offer several installation systems warranties that guarantee your installation will be free from defects for up to a lifetime, provided our products are used as a complete tile or stone installation system. We will also customize warranties to your specifications.

Architectural Support

Custom's highly experienced and educated team of Architectural and Technical consultants collaborate with architects, builders, specifiers and contractors every day to ensure the tile and stone installation specifications meet the needs of the project. Discussing goals, reviewing and revising plans, documenting completed specifications, specification writing and editing services, along with on-site inspections are the benefits of working with Custom's consulting team. Each team member is a Certified Tile Consultant (CTC) and many have earned additional accreditations as CSI, CDT, CCPR and LEED-AP. Our industry expertise has proven to be the most valuable in the architectural community.

ASK OUR CONSULTANTS ABOUT:

- Continuing Education Seminars from an AIA/CES Registered Provider and Winner of the AIA/CES Award for Excellence
- Lifetime Systems Warranties
- AutoCAD details and BIM objects for Tile, Stone and Wood Floor Installations
- Product Technical Data Sheets
- 3-Part Specifications
- LEED® Certifications
- Personalized Consultation



To learn more about
Emerald System or register
your warranty, go to:

customemeraldsystem.com

Keep up to date with our newsletter. Subscribe online!

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