



Environmental FAQs

Understanding the impact of green building products on the environment as well as the benefits they will bring to a specified project can be time-consuming and confusing. Santa Regina International is a member of the US Green Building Council (USGBC) in order to learn how to educate our customers on why Santa Regina products are a great choice when designing a green building. The FAQs below should help you to understand the value that Santa Regina products bring to the building design as well as the environment.

What LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) points do Santa Regina products contribute to?

Santa Regina can fall into several categories of the LEED Rating System. We use post-consumer and post-industrial content in several of our formulas which will qualify for the Recycled Content category. Please check with your local distributor or Santa Regina International as to which SKUs are available. Currently, there is not a category specifically for flooring or stone/tile within the LEED Rating system. However, you may receive credit for using Santa Regina products under the Innovation in Design category. A green story can be told using the environmentally-friendly manufacturing process, superior performance characteristics and sustainability of the products. Finally, Santa Regina International is based in the United States and for those located within the 500 mile radius of Palmer, TX (a suburb of Dallas), you may receive credit under the Regional Materials category.

What natural materials are used to manufacture Santa Regina products?

The core ingredients of our products are crushed aggregate, cement, sand, inorganic pigments and very little water. They comprise about 99% of the formula. The remaining ingredient is a latex additive used to increase the performance characteristics of the products.

Are the raw materials renewable/recyclable?

The raw materials consisting of aggregate, sand and cement can be recycled into concrete.

What happens to waste/pollution in manufacturing process?

The manufacturing process is an environmentally contained process. The plant uses 100% electricity for power with no kilns or autoclaves. Water used in the polishing process is recycled through our own water filtration system. There are no emissions of any kind of smoke, gas or other harmful fumes.

The only residual from the manufacturing process are the remnants of aggregate, sand, and cement from grinding off 1/10th of an inch of the tile to expose the aggregate. This all natural remnant is recycled as road bed for the local farmers and ranchers.



Is the manufacturing process an energy intensive process?

No, the only energy used in our manufacturing process is electricity which comprises less than 2-3¢ per square foot of the manufacturing cost. There are no kilns or autoclaves to produce our product.

If the product conserves resources, what is the recycled percentage?

This varies based on the aggregate(s) used. The percentages range from 7% post-consumer to 60+% post-industrial content. Please contact your local distributor or Santa Regina International for more details.

Is the product more durable than its competitors?

Yes, the compression strength of Santa Regina products is 16,000 psi which is twice that of our competitors 8,000 psi. Our tile's flexural strength of 2,000 psi is over twice that of our competitor's 900 psi flexural strength. Because our products are cement-based, they continue to harden as they age. There should not be a need to replace a tile if it has been installed correctly. The aggregate used in our product is dispersed throughout the tile creating a through-body product with consistency for the depth of the product. If a tile were to get damaged, it is possible to re-polish the tile out in the field. Consequently, Santa Regina International offers a warranty equal to the expected life of the building.

Does the products off-gas carcinogens, VOC's or other toxins? For how long?

No. Our tile is an all natural tile with no off-gases of any kind.

Is the product designed to be easily recyclable? Into what?

In the event the tile has to be replaced, it can be crushed and used as road bed as is currently done with tiles that do meet quality control standards in the plant.

What are the maintenance requirements?

Santa Regina International applies a sealer at the factory before the product is shipped. It is recommended that you clean the tile with a neutral ph floor cleaner. For light to average traffic patterns, the sealer will need to be re-applied every 15 years. For heavy traffic areas, you may consider reapplying the sealer every 5-8 years.