

SLIPPERY ROCK

GAZETTE

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THE BEACON OF THE STONE INDUSTRY

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PINNACLE AWARDS SHOWCASE

EIGHT OUTSTANDING NATURAL STONE PROJECTS HONORED BY THE WORLD'S LEADING NATURAL STONE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

THE MARBLE INSTITUTE OF AMERICA (MIA) HAS ANNOUNCED THE WINNERS OF ITS PRESTIGIOUS 2005 PINNACLE AWARDS COMPETITION, WHICH RECOGNIZES EXCELLENCE IN COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL, AND RESTORATION NATURAL STONE PROJECTS WORLDWIDE.

Eight projects were singled out from a record-breaking number of entries demonstrating superior beauty, creativity, ingenuity, and craftsmanship by MIA-member stone suppliers, fabricators, and installers. The projects range from upscale residential to a magnificent temple, and this year include a world-class memorial.

Serving as judges for the competition were Wey Lee, Senior Associate at Ted Moudis Associates, architects; Richard Zurita, Principal at Architecture and Planning PC, Immediate Past MIA President, Paul Vigna, from Artisan Tile & Marble Company of New Jersey; and Chuck Muehlbauer, the Technical Director of MIA.

"The projects submitted this year were just outstanding and confirm the fact that natural stone is the premier building material choice of leading architects & designers, and the leading surface material choice for kitchen & bath dealers and designers and homeowners," says MIA President Scott Lardner, President of Rocky Mountain Stone Company in Albuquerque, New Mexico. "Each of the entries illustrates the unique ability of natural stone to add beauty, sustainability, and value to projects large and small, commercial or residential."

MIA presented the Pinnacle Awards to the winners at its Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting was held in conjunction with StonExpo 2005.

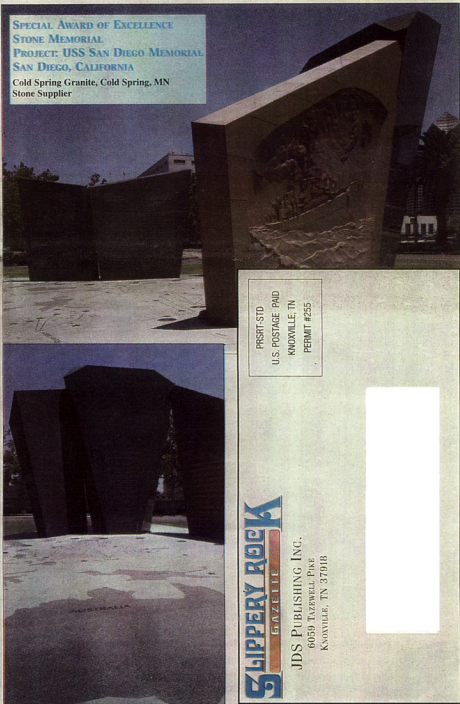
A Special Pinnacle Award of Excellence for a Stone Memorial was given to Cold Spring Granite Company for their role in the USS San Diego Memorial project in San Diego, California.

The memorial is an original artwork designed by noted sculptors Eugene Daub and Louis Quaintance for the USS San Diego (CL-53) Memorial Association, which has donated it to the Port District for the benefit of the people of San Diego. Four adjoining walls of polished carnelian granite and composite terra cotta are arranged in a roughly V-shaped footprint, which encloses two sides of a small plaza. A life-size bronze sculpture forms a focal point of the memorial, representing all the crew men who served on the USS San Diego and is emblematic of all U.S. sailors who served their country during World War II.

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**SPECIAL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
STONE MEMORIAL
PROJECT: USS SAN DIEGO MEMORIAL
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**

**Cold Spring Granite, Cold Spring, MN
Stone Supplier**



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LATICRETE HELPS CEMENT A DREAM IN HAITI



ON A GLOBAL BASIS.

LATICRETE INTERNATIONAL, FOR A HALF A CENTURY, HAS BEEN A WORLD LEADER IN PROVIDING CERAMIC TILE AND STONE INSTALLATION SYSTEMS

Innovation and commitment have marked LATICRETE's five decades of success. These commitments include a strong desire to help those in need. Recently, the company again demonstrated this kind of selfless behavior by donating and shipping its unique products to an inspiring cause: Providing shelter for the citizens of Cap Haitian, a poverty-stricken seaport village on the northern coast of Haiti.

This amazing story actually began many years ago when Philip Paoella, then President of Plasticrete Corporation, traveled to Cap Haitian on a humanitarian mission with his long-time friend Vito Mazza, in a joint attempt to help fight hunger on the island. After the trip, Paoella returned to Connecticut and his everyday life, but the images of what he witnessed on those poverty-stricken streets of Haiti never left his mind.

Cap Haitian is one of the most impoverished places in the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Virtually all of the residents live in extreme poverty, tucked away as migrants in the tropical countryside. Overcrowded, makeshift housing, little or no sanitation and rarely enough food to meet

even the minimal daily nutritional requirements, are just some of the issues facing the people of this region.

Paoella, now 90-years-old and retired, had a vision – and also a plan to implement it. With many years of service as an architectural concrete products manufacturer to draw from, Paoella set out to find an attainable solution to the housing issues facing the people of Cap Haitian.

"My father's dream was to do something to help (the people of Haiti)," Philip's son John Paoella said. "This is not a money-making adventure for him. He has spent thousands of dollars and the past few years researching this product. It means a lot for him to see it come full-circle. We made a commitment as his children that if something happens, we would see this through, and we have all had a hand in supporting him."

Paoella's dream was to create an opportunity for an unskilled individual to be able to manufacture a concrete block of sufficient quality and strength for use in building a home. This house would then be "bonded" together using LATICRETE's #255 MultiMax Thin-Set Mortar, an easily applied bonding compound. With the help of two former employees, Joe Ciriello and Joe Rescigno, Paoella first designed a wooden form (and then a steel form) to cast the block. After several castings it was determined that a durable yet lightweight form would be

needed. The trio of inventors then met with David Nickerson, President of Concrete Block Insulating Systems (CBIS Korfil). Nickerson designed (and donated) a metal mold that produced a polystyrene "block" mold that was inexpensive, durable, lightweight and had the necessary tolerance levels to cast a block perfectly square. Once cast with these molds, the blocks can be laid in a stack pattern using LATICRETE's mortar mix. This building process allows an unskilled person (with necessary training) to take the mold, fill it with concrete materials native to the island and subsequently build a house. Once perfected, this process could provide a vocation and a purpose for the impoverished Haitian people. Not to mention, a place to call home.

"LATICRETE really stepped up to the plate for us," John Paoella said. "I talked with Sean Boyle at LATICRETE and he thought it was an amazing idea. (He then) arranged for us to receive the shipment of products in West Palm, Florida, to be transported to Haiti. We were very pleased with their support."

Of course, a project like this took years to unfold, and many different people and companies had a hand in making one man's dream a reality. In addition to CBIS and LATICRETE, people like Marc Theriault, a first-class engineer from Canada who volunteers his time in Haiti, and Father Paul

Carrier, from Fairfield University, who travels to Haiti monthly to support a former student, Doug Perlitiz, who founded Project Pierre Toussaint. This project serves the growing population of homeless street children in Cap Haitian, where the new block will be officially tested this November.

"I refer to this project as a miracle in progress," Father Carrier said. "Amazing things are happening in terms of education, housing and the meeting of the very basic needs of the people of Haiti."

The Pierre Toussaint School instructs students in the trades in addition to reading, writing and mathematics. The "Block Project" will allow the boys to learn how to make a smaller sized concrete block. Once the boys have mastered the masonry technique, they will in turn build homes for the homeless in their village and community, addressing a great need in Haiti.

LATICRETE International is a global leader in the manufacturing of tile and stone installation systems, known and trusted for industry leading innovation and expertise. Comprehensive LATICRETE and industry information can be found on the web at: www.laticrete.com.

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