

Surfaces and Interior Finishes

Outlined here are several finish and surfaces technologies that could be applied in housing for various benefits stated.

Lower Cost Solid Surfaces

Granicoat is an economical, durable, and sprayable solid surface application. It has the same properties as

solid surface sheet material and can be applied with spray equipment. It is more forgiving than solid surface sheet goods, with a seamless look. This new breakthrough makes wall surfaces and other interiors easier and more economical to finish with solid surface material. Granicoat, when applied properly, gives a ten-year warranty.

Contact:

Safas Corp
Clinton, NJ
Phone: 973-772-5252
www.safascorp.com

Decorative Surface Material Wears Like Armor

Vydex can be shaped into rounds, curves, etc., and is thermally formed to create seamless, long-lasting surfaces for walls and retail fixtures displays. The material is relatively low cost and combines durable PVC film and high impact resistant rigid PVC into a surface product that stands up in high wear areas.

For housing it could be used in wall panel interior applications or traditional surface areas like counters for low cost, high wear applications.

Contact:

TC Millwork
Bensalem, PA
Phone: 215-245-4210
www.tcmillwork.com

Eco Floors

Made from recycled rubber, this durable flooring is used in retail and commercial environments. It makes use of old tires. It is manufactured in tile form. Tiles are odor-free, flexible in design, and could be used in places where ceramic tile is found today for a softer, environmentally attractive floor surface.

Contact:

Phone: 1-877-ECO-SURF
Email: srzgerberltd.com
www.regupol.com

Pre-Finished Wood Wall Covering

ColorWall, using over 300 colors, patterns, and species of dyed wood veneers, provides an environmentally friendly, naturally beautiful wall surface. It is less expensive than paneling, provides more natural beauty, with no

finishing or staining required. It adapts to many different surfaces with its flexible fabric backing.

ColorWall uses natural or reconstituted dyed veneers with a tough, sealed coating, formulated specifically to veneers, for superior protection from UV and everyday wear. Standard sheet sizes used in retail interior applications are 24"x96".

Contact:

VenTec
Chicago, IL
Phone: 312-733-7383
www.ventecveneer.com

Innvironments Organic Wall Coverings

Innovations has produced a revolutionary new line of organic wall coverings which create a new direction in the surfaces industry. The line of wall coverings is created entirely from natural resources or environmentally attractive products. The organics, including coffee, adzuki bean, green tea, charcoal and mugwort, are transformed into particle form and applied to cellulose backing.

Its other line is PaperWeaves, developed from cellulose paper and washed with pearlized translucent color. It uses powder from mineral mica. Both lines are amazingly creative, fresh, and environmentally attractive wall coverings or surface solutions.

Contact:

Innovations
Phone: 1-800-227-8053
www.innovationsusa.com/
innvironments.html

Textra Paintable Wall Coverings

Johns Manville introduced Textra Glass Textile, a wall finish system. It is affordable, durable, and easy-to-install. Made from woven glass yarns, which are strong and flame resistant, its open-weave structures permit natural moisture vapor diffusion. Textra can be applied directly to concrete, OSB, and plywood surfaces. Textra is competitive versus alternative finishes on both initial cost and life-cycle cost, with lower installation time and cost.

Contact:

Johns Manville
Denver, CO
Phone: 303-654-3103
www.jm.com/textra

Technology Scanning

One of PATH's major research support services is PATH Technology Scanning. *Technology Scanning* tells us about technology developments in other industries, from other nations, from federal laboratories, and from other building sectors. PATH looks for breakthroughs in other industries that could be transferred and applied to housing. *Technology Scanning*—published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development/PATH and prepared by the NAHB Research Center, Inc.—are updated as technology developments dictate. The Research Center works to unite technology developers from outside of residential construction with manufacturers in the residential housing sector.

This issue of *Technology Scanning* is one in a series. Each issue in the series falls into one of the following categories:

- *Design and Internet Tools*
- *Safety*
- *Surfaces and Interior Finishes*
- *Building Envelope Technologies*
- *Electrical*
- *Plumbing*
- *Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning*
- *Energy/Power Systems Generation*
- *Basic Materials*
- *Information Technology*
- *Sustainable Design Strategies*
- *Materials Recycling and Reuse*
- *Thermal and Moisture Protection*
- *Indoor Environmental Quality*

Call the ToolBase Hotline at 800-898-2842 for information about other available *Technology Scanning* issues. Or, log onto pathnet.org and www.toolbase.org.

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