



FINE BAMBOO FLOORING, PANELS & VENEER

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TERAGREN RELEASES NEW MATERIAL & SUSTAINABILITY REPORT TO EDUCATE INDUSTRY AUDIENCES ABOUT COMPANY, PRODUCTS' GREEN ATTRIBUTES

New Teragren Architect/Designer Sample Binders Also Created to Help Architects, Designers Take the Guesswork Out of Specifying Teragren Bamboo Flooring, Panels & Veneer

Teragren Products' Eco-Friendliness Recognized as Synergy™ Strand Bamboo Flooring Featured in Renowned Chicago Museum of Science and Industry's Smart Home Exhibit

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, Wash. – August 19, 2008 – Teragren (www.teragren.com), the nation's leading manufacturer of fine bamboo flooring, panels and veneer, today unveiled a new *Teragren Material & Sustainability Report* designed to educate industry audiences about the company and its products' green attributes.

The report includes information that addresses sophisticated sustainability questions from architects and designers focusing on carbon sequestration, raw material sourcing, recycling, biodegradability and more.

“As the design and building industry grows savvier about environmental products and their attributes, it's increasingly important to substantiate what ‘being green’ truly means,” said Teragren Executive Vice President and Marketing Director, Ann Knight. “Our new *Material & Sustainability Report* is designed to help those architects and designers feel confident not only in our products, but also in Teragren's commitment to the environment.”

In addition to developing the report, Teragren has also unveiled its new Architect/Designer Sample Binders designed specifically for resource libraries. The binders should be especially useful since, according to a recent Autodesk/AIA Green Index survey, 90 percent of all architects expect to incorporate sustainable elements into their design practices by 2012.

In a ringing endorsement of Teragren's environmental commitment, the company's popular *Synergy™* Strand Bamboo Flooring was also chosen for the groundbreaking green

housing exhibit, *Smart Home: Green + Wired, Powered by ComEd and Warmed by Peoples* at the renowned Chicago Museum of Science and Industry.

Material & Sustainability Report

In the new *Teragren Material & Sustainability Report*, comprehensive responses to frequent material survey requests about the products' environmental attributes such as carbon sequestration, sustainability of transportation, indoor air quality, biodegradability and reusability are answered.

The report is particularly timely as more than 70 percent of consumers surveyed recently by the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies said that it is either "important" or "essential" that environmentally friendly products have labels that describe the environmental impacts caused by their manufacturing.

Significant data within the *Teragren Materials & Sustainability Report* underscores how bamboo contributes to efforts to reduce global warming: its leafy canopy releases 35 percent more oxygen than a comparable hardwood forest and rapid re-growth produces multiple canopies in a plant's lifespan. In addition, harvesting bamboo plants and manufacturing high quality bamboo products takes carbon out of circulation in the environment for generations.

Additional topics within the report address frequently asked questions surrounding items such as:

- **Recyclable Packaging.** All Teragren packaging is recyclable—and also complies with stringent California Health & Safety Codes.
- **Reduced Energy Consumption.** Teragren's factory burns all of its bamboo milling waste—creating steam used to heat kilns, drying rooms and hydraulic presses.
- **Biodegradability.** All Teragren products are biodegradable when properly composted, and there are no heavy metals or environmentally persistent chemicals.
- **Environmental Third Party Certifications.** Teragren's environmental management systems are certified through the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the world's largest developer and publisher of international standards.
- **Waste Management.** All unused materials are reduced or eliminated—such as sawdust and cutting scraps taken to recycling centers for composting.
- **Antimicrobial Protection.** All Teragren raw materials are treated with a natural borate and hydrogen peroxide solution to help protect against microbial incursion.
- **Carbon Sequestration.** Because bamboo is so efficient at sequestering carbon dioxide, Teragren's products sequester significantly more carbon dioxide than is

released during transportation—no more than 25 percent of the sequestered carbon is emitted and the remaining 75 percent is locked-up for the lifespan of the products.

The report also underscores a core component of the Teragren mission: to measure, mitigate and ultimately neutralize the company's environmental footprint and to be carbon negative. Currently, Teragren's Washington State headquarters is carbon neutral, and carbon measurement is also underway at the company's factories in China and throughout their product transportation system.

New Architect /Designer Sample Binders

Teragren has also developed new Architect/Designer Sample Binders designed for resource libraries. Featuring 4" samples of all Teragren products, the Binders are designed to take the guesswork out of specifications. Made with recycled cardboard and soy inks, they showcase Teragren's complete lines of traditional bamboo flooring for residential and commercial installations. The accompanying brochure is printed on FSC-certified paper with soy inks.

Teragren product lines featured within the *Flooring* binder include Teragren's popular *Synergy Strand Bamboo Flooring*, *Signature Naturals*, *Signature Colors*, *Studio Wide Plank Floating Floor* with the Valinge-patented glueless self-locking system, and *Craftsman II Bamboo Long Plank Flooring*.

Teragren product lines featured within the *Panels & Veneer* binder include Teragren's popular *Bamboo Parquet Butcher Block* and several styles of the company's furniture-grade bamboo panels and veneer for the furniture and cabinet industries.

The Sample Binders may be ordered from Teragren or through Teragren's distribution network and are listed under the Construction Specification Institute's Bamboo Flooring Division #096223 and Panel/Veneer Division #064200.

Smart Home: Green + Wired

In a glowing endorsement of Teragren's products' green attributes, the company's *Synergy Strand Bamboo Flooring* was handpicked by renowned green architect, Michelle Kaufmann, for the groundbreaking *Smart Home: Green + Wired* exhibit, open through Jan. 4, 2009 at the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago.

Touted the "greenest home in Chicago," the home showcases environmentally friendly building methods and reusable materials that visitors can use to start living green right now.

Teragren partnered with its Chicago-based distributor, All Tile Inc., to contribute more than 1,500 square feet of flooring to the home.

“We’re incredibly honored to be included within the *Smart Home: Green + Wired* exhibit,” said Knight. “It’s wonderful that such a renowned ‘green’ designer would be drawn to the sustainable and environmentally friendly design solutions that our products can provide.”

Phenomenal Growth

Demand for Teragren’s environmentally friendly products continues to rise as the company’s revenues increased 25 percent in the first two quarters of 2008. The company anticipates continued double digit growth through the remainder of the year due to same store growth and as its growing distribution network is set to expand further through the addition of two new agreements.

Teragren’s growing momentum is a result of the beauty, durability and renewability of its products—and also the increasing demand for green building materials. According to business research and consulting firm Frost & Sullivan, the green building industry saw an estimated \$12 billion in revenues in 2007—which could top \$42 billion by 2015.

Additional testaments to the environmental friendliness and quality of the company’s products abound: the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency specially ordered Teragren’s formaldehyde-free bamboo flooring and panels for the LEED-Gold Certified Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 8 Headquarters in Denver, Colorado. In addition, Santa Clara University used Teragren’s bamboo panels as I-joists for their winning entry into the 2007 Solar Decathlon competition, focused on designing, building and operating the most attractive and energy-efficient solar-powered house.

About Teragren

In 1994, Teragren (www.teragren.com) pioneered the bamboo flooring, panel and veneer industry in the United States. The company is recognized as a category leader by the architectural and design communities as well as major floor covering distributors and retailers, and panel and veneer distributors. Teragren is also considered a leader within the broader sustainable business movement—it was named by *Inc. Magazine* as one of “The Green 50” companies that are setting the standard for environmentally friendly business, and one of the “Top Ten Greentpreneurs” by *Seattle Metropolitan Magazine*. All Teragren bamboo products contribute to certification under the U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED® (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) rating system in one or more categories. The company owns exclusive rights to four strand bamboo patents: U.S. (*Patent # 5,543,197*), U.K. (*Patent # EP 0 907 503 B1*), Mexico (*Patent # 204281*) and Brazil (*Patent # PI 9612688-4 A*).

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