



FINE BAMBOO FLOORING, PANELS & VENEER

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TERAGREN OPENS NEW MANUFACTURING FACILITY—ENABLING COMPANY TO PRODUCE SUPERIOR STRENGTH STRAND BAMBOO

Teragren's Popular Synergy™ Strand Bamboo Flooring & Strand Panel Products Now Available with Revolutionary XCORA™ Superior Strand Bamboo Technology

*Ground-Breaking New Manufacturing Process
Results in Improved Quality & Unparalleled Durability*

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, Wash.—November 19, 2008—Teragren (www.teragren.com), the nation's leading manufacturer of fine bamboo flooring, panels and veneer, today announced it opened a new manufacturing facility in China which will utilize the company's new proprietary, cutting-edge *XCORA™ Superior Strand Bamboo Technology* to create Teragren's *Synergy™* flooring and strand panel products with new, unparalleled durability, averaging 154 percent harder than red oak.

“Consistent with the exclusive nature of our products, our strand bamboo products using this cutting-edge technology will only be available through Teragren. We have dedicated considerable research and development efforts toward re-engineering our manufacturing process to create higher quality strand products,” said Teragren President and CEO, David Knight. “The application of this patented technology in bamboo is the wave of the future—it offers infinite possibilities in the building and construction industries—from interior to exterior building and structural products. Our re-engineering efforts have produced harder, more moisture resistant and stable strand products.”

Located in Longyou, in the Zhejiang Province of China, Teragren's new 240,000 square foot strand bamboo manufacturing facility employs approximately 120 people. The company's new proprietary, re-engineered hot press manufacturing method, *XCORA™ Superior Strand*

Bamboo Technology, will be utilized to *exclusively* produce Teragren's *Synergy™* strand bamboo flooring and strand panel products.

Teragren is also exploring the development of additional structural and exterior components utilizing their new XCORA™ technology.

Teragren owns exclusive patent rights to four strand bamboo patents in the U.S., U.K., Brazil and Mexico. Bamboo strands are compressed with an environmentally safe adhesive causing the fibers to fuse together. The result is a patented, exceptionally durable and stable bamboo material from which many products, including flooring and panels can be manufactured.

In keeping with Teragren's environmental and social mission, the facility generates energy from the bi-product of bamboo sawdust created during the manufacturing process. This material fuels the boilers that generate steam, powering 30 drying kilns, a 90' conveyor oven, a high capacity hot press, caramelizing tanks, and is used to heat the facility buildings. The smoke generated from the boiler is filtered with a water "scrubber" to keep particulates from entering the atmosphere. Teragren's *Synergy™* bamboo flooring and strand bamboo panels now average 154 percent harder than red oak and 125 percent harder than North American maple and are more moisture resistant and stable.

In addition to producing Teragren *Synergy™* Strand Bamboo Solid-Strip Flooring and Strand Bamboo Panels, the facility will also produce the company's newest addition to the *Synergy™* line: Teragren's *Synergy™* Strand Bamboo Floating Floor—the first wide plank strand bamboo floating floor to feature the Välinge-patented, glueless self-locking system.

"*Synergy™* products comprise a significant portion of Teragren's flooring sales and we anticipate that demand will grow even more rapidly as a result of the increased durability and stability, and greater installation options," said Knight. "We look forward to applying our resources to more strand bamboo products—including additional flooring and panel-veneer lines with more options in styles and colors, outdoor decking and structural building components such as trusses and joists. All these product types are in research and development now."

Teragren's existing manufacturing facility in Anji, also in the Zhejiang Province, will continue to employ about 700 people to provide milling and finishing to the *Synergy™* flooring product line and to manufacture Teragren's traditional lines of bamboo flooring, panels and veneer.

About Teragren

In 1994, Teragren (www.teragren.com) pioneered the bamboo flooring, panel and veneer industry in the United States and has developed products from bamboo as its core competency. 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*). Teragren’s cross-ply 100 percent bamboo core substrate has U.S. and International patents-pending.

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