



## Elemental Excellence Brings Monumental Results

# OurMission

**Ragno recognizes that the continued success of our company relies on the well-being of our employees, our communities and the environment. We are committed to pursuing sustainable solutions to modern business challenges that support and regenerate these key elements.**

# GlobalPresence

Ragno USA plays a key role within the strong global presence of Marazzi Group by decisively meeting the tile needs of the North American market.

Manufacture and sourcing of a vast array of products – **porcelains, glazed ceramics, glass mosaics, natural stones, metallics** – brings a total tile package that addresses aesthetic and performance requirements of designers, architects and homeowners.

Always leading while learning; always integrating the best approaches in technology, communication and management; always partnering with artists, technicians, entrepreneurs, forward-thinking individuals and companies of various backgrounds, Marazzi Group is a multinational, multicultural, worldwide enterprise that leads the world in design, manufacture and sale of ceramic tiles as well as other flooring materials, sanitary wares and bathroom furnishings still based on its visionary and systematic strategy.



# Corporate Responsibility

Regeneration, responsibility and leadership begin from within. In early 2008, partnership with Ragno employees, non-profit organizations and an internationally recognized sustainability consultancy led to the development of a comprehensive sustainability strategy. Our goal and challenge included looking beyond one aspect of our products to integrate sustainability throughout our organization.

First, we assessed our products for LEED credit contribution; explored ways to increase recycled content; and ensured healthy indoor air quality through VOC testing.

Today, we are moving beyond products to assess the impact of our entire operation. Ultimately, it is the total Ragno footprint that impacts our planet. From the Ragno corporate headquarters to our manufacturing facilities, we are quantifying our environmental footprint and benchmarking our corporate social responsibility activities. Through MindClick SGM's 360° Sustainability Audit we assessed our products, facilities, corporate social responsibility activities, and customer and employee sustainability practices. This is helping us understand where we excel and how we can positively improve our impact on the planet, our communities, our employees and our customers.



To learn more about Ragno's Elements initiatives, visit <http://www.ragnousa.com/english/sustainable.php>

# SustainabilityNaturally

As a part of the Marazzi Group, the concept of quality naturally extends to include both social and environmental factors. Ragno USA believes that these socially significant goals must also be pursued along with objectives related to the quality of its products and services.

Ragno USA understands that to maintain its role as a leader and educator in the tile industry, a solid commitment to create a corporate sustainability plan is not just important, but necessary. **A commitment to sustainability starts at the stakeholder level, and carries through to employees, with engagement on every level.**

While marketing channels in every industry are saturated with environmental claims that are truly questionable, **we believe it is important to be recognized as a company that contributes recognizable and quantifiable steps towards sustainable action.**

Consumer awareness has taken on a new level of sophistication, and sustainable design professionals' expectations are reaching new levels. **Credible claims can only be made as a result of significant organization-wide commitments to sustainable leadership.**

In seeking to understand the world around them, ancient philosophers categorized matter in terms of water, earth air, and fire. These same primary elements are at the core of our mission to respect, restore, and protect.



# earth

## DurabilityStabilityTimelessness

The simple elegance of tile makes it an appealing choice for those who seek the durability, stability and timelessness of the earth element. Since the first medieval tilers stamped custom designs into unglazed clay, tile has remained an essential building material. Resonating with natural beauty, Ragno tiles embody the essence of Earth. As a building material, tile has an exceptionally low life cycle cost. The typical lifespan of tile is 50 years, and ceramic tile costs less per year than all other floor finishes over the life of a building.

**From an environmental standpoint, tile excels in the simplicity of its inputs and manufacturing process.**

At Ragno, we strive to incorporate recycled content into all of our products. We also recognize the importance of creating industry-wide regional clay product recycling programs to increase the amount of post consumer waste in new tile products.



# water

## RelianceLuxuryFlow

The caress and vitality of water softens, relaxes and energizes, interacting with its surroundings to shape and nourish. Like water, tile is adaptable to its environment. Ragno tiles create luxurious, resilient and tranquil environments in areas where carpets can't be used. Water is also essential to all life. As we experience global climate shifts and continually increasing population growth, water scarcity is becoming an increasingly critical point of concern.

Because we recognize that we must all do our part to protect and conserve this vital resource, **Ragno reuses 100% of wastewater** generated during the manufacturing process.

All manufacturing impacts exceed Environmental Protection Agency compliance regulations and many of our United States based manufacturing facilities adopted strict guidelines set forth by the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS).

EMAS is a management tool for companies and other organizations to evaluate, report and improve their environmental performance.



# air

## CrispCleanPure

Elegant and natural, tile imbues indoor and outdoor spaces with a refined elemental allure. Increasingly clean air is being recognized as a precious and finite resource; tile provides a healthy alternative to other flooring products. The clean lines and solid surfaces of Ragno tiles make them easier to clean and maintain than other types of floors, contributing to improved indoor air quality, which can positively affect the health and productivity of occupants.

Tile provides a healthy alternative to other flooring products. Inherently, Ragno tile does not emit any volatile organic compounds, contributing to improve indoor air quality and the health and productivity of your occupants.

**To reduce our corporate footprint we  
are transitioning to the use of  
recycled materials for our  
office supplies and**

developing environmentally  
preferable purchasing  
program for our corporate  
offices.





# fire

## InnovationTransformationInspiration

The beauty of Ragno tile brings inspiration to any project. Like fire transforms clay, Ragno is committed to transforming our company to be more socially and environmentally responsible. As we embark on the path to increased sustainability, we look to science, the design community, clients and our local communities for insight. We recognize that other tile manufacturers who may ordinarily be viewed competitors are valuable and needed partners in the transformation of our industry. Together we can drive innovation and aggregate demand for more regenerative practices and more energy efficient products.

Because fire is a core element in the manufacturing of Ragno products, we understand the **critical importance of pursuing energy efficiency measures and researching renewable energy sources** and emerging reduced-impact production technologies.



# LEED

LEED is an internationally recognized green building certification system, providing third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at improving performance across all the metrics that matter most: energy savings, water efficiency, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts. Developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), LEED provides building owners and operators a concise framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions.<sup>1</sup>

The concept of “green building” has launched into a popular topic in the build environment. All the while, the government is re-vamping regulations that will require commercial build sites to source products that are truly environmentally friendly.

Statistics have proven how the built environment has a significant impact on our environment - our natural surroundings, the economy, individual health and productivity. According to the United States Green Build Council, buildings in the United States account for:

- 72% of electricity consumption,
- 39% of energy use,
- 38% of all carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions,
- 40% of raw materials use,
- 30% of waste output (136 million tons annually), and
- 14% of potable water consumption.

Recognizing the importance of the LEED Rating System, we partnered with Green It Group consulting firm to complete a comprehensive analysis of our product offerings. We have simplified the process by outlining the rating systems and credit opportunities for Ragno products.

<sup>1</sup> United States Green Building Council, [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org).

## LEED 2009 CREDIT CATEGORY ANALYSIS COMMERCIAL PRODUCT CONTRIBUTION VERIFICATION

SUSTAINABLE SITES			
LEED Rating Systems	Credit Name	Calculation	Points Available
LEED-NC 2009 LEED-CS LEED-CI LEED-S	SS Credit 7.1 Heat Island Effect: Nonroof	Total sq ft of Ragno qualifying tile, divided by total square fee of hardscape area, equals Ragno's contribution to 50% of total qualifying hardscape area.*	1
LEED-EBOM 2009	SS Credit 7.1 Heat Island Effect: Nonroof	Total sq ft of Ragno qualifying tile, divided by total square fee of hardscape area, equals Ragno's contribution to 50% of total qualifying hardscape area.*	1

MATERIALS AND RESOURCES			
LEED Rating Systems	Credit Name	Calculation	Points Available
LEED-NC 2009 LEED-CS 2009 LEED-S 2009	MR Credit 4: Recycled Content	Total cost of Ragno tile (x)1/2 recycled content, divided by total materials cost, equals Ragno's % contribution to 10% or 20% of total project materials dollars spent on recycled content.*	10%=1 20%=2
	MR Credit 5: Regional Materials	Total cost of Ragno tiles (x) % manufactured AND extracted within 500 miles of project site, divided by total project materials cost equals Ragno's % contribution to 10% or 20% of total project materials dollars spent on regional content.*	10%=1 20%=2
LEED-CI 2009	MR Credit 5: Regional Materials	Use LEED CI 2009 submittal templates*	Option 1 = 1 Option 2 = 2
LEED-EBOM 2009	MR Credit 3: Sustainable Purchasing-Facility Alterations and Additions	Cost of Ragno tile purchased for alteration/addition divided by total addition/alteration base building materials cost equals Ragno's % contribution to 50% sustainable materials purchase requirement. Supporting documentation required.*	1

INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY			
LEED Rating Systems	Credit Name	Calculation	Points Available
LEED-NC 2009 LEED-CS 2009 LEED-CI 2009	IEQ Credit 4.3: Low-Emitting Materials-Flooring Systems	No calculations required. *All Ragno products CAO1350 tested and certified.	1
LEED-S 2009	IEQ Credit 4.3: Low-Emitting Materials-Flooring Systems	No calculations required. *All Ragno products CAO1350 tested and certified.	1

### ADDITIONAL COMPANY/PRODUCT INFORMATION - GENERAL AND SUSTAINABILITY



Ragno USA is a member of the United States Green Building Council.



For select product lines, Ragno has obtained the Ecolabel mark, an environmental quality seal from the European Union, granted to products that meet and comply with standards for environmental quality and the rational use of energy resources and natural resources that are set by the EU.



Engaged with MindClick SGM, a leading sustainability consulting firm, to benchmark our sustainability performance and create an ongoing performance measurement system.



The Marazzi Group was the first ceramics manufacturer in Italy to obtain EMAS certification, at its Fiorano plant. This EU certification is awarded to companies which have adopted highly environmentally-efficient manufacturing systems.

\*Contact your sales representative for details per series.



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