

Natural Stone - Eco-friendly Material

Stoneville (UK) Ltd specialises in the supply and installation of natural stones, as well as some carefully selected man-made materials. Natural stones are one of the most eco-friendly building materials for a number of reasons.

1. Natural stone is known now only for its natural beauty and versatility, but also durability and longevity. Durability is important in eco-friendly construction, especially in flooring, as no replacement (and associated disposal) is required for dozens of years, unlike with most other materials, including wood, carpets, linoleum, etc. due to wear and tear. Disposal generally represents a major pollution problem, especially with such popular flooring choice as synthetic carpets. It is not an issue with natural stones that can be reconstituted (as agglomerate marble, for example), reused and if disposed of they do not cause harm to the environment.
2. Again, due to its longevity and durability, natural stone plays central role in sustainable building, which is key in preserving and enhancing environment.
3. Unlike in the case of man-made materials (e.g. synthetic carpets, laminated wood, etc.), no chemicals are used in production of natural stones.
4. Production of natural stones is more energy-efficient than that of man-made building materials which may or may not be derivatives of natural materials (wood, stone, etc.).
5. Natural stone does not produce any toxic fumes (like most synthetic materials) and naturally inhibits bacterial growth. As a result, it does not cause problems with respiratory and other conditions such as asthma or allergies.
6. Unlike in the case of natural wool materials (wool carpets, for example), natural stone does not require animal farming, which has a hugely negative environmental impact as sheep emit large quantities of methane gas, a greenhouse gas 20 times more powerful at driving global warming than carbon dioxide.
7. Natural stone is a static-free solution. Excess of electrostatic charges in buildings (caused, for example, by synthetic carpet) represents a health risk and may lead to the development of asthma and allergies, as well as stress and headaches.
8. Unlike wood industry, natural stone quarrying does not cause deforestation which has a major impact on the climate change.
9. In present day, most quarries use eco-friendly methods for extracting natural stones with no negative eco-impact and even protect and enhance the environment by transferring or restoring existing habitats or creating new ones. Stoneville is committed to cooperating only with quarries that employ the best "green" practices.

As part of its eco-friendly commitments, Stoneville has participated in Ecobuild 2009 that was held at Earl's Court, London, on 3-5 March 2009, www.ecobuild.co.uk. This Exhibition/Forum is dedicated to finding and showcasing eco-friendly solutions in building.

For more information visit us <http://www.stoneville.co.uk/> or call 020 8560 1000.