



GENUINE STONE



November 8, 2012

Dear Supporter,

We wanted to bring you up to date on a few things that have been happening with the Natural Stone Council (NSC). Most recently the NSC has renamed their MSHA/OSHA committee to now be called the NSC Regulatory Committee. The new committee now has two subcommittees. One deals with the MSHA/OSHA issues and the other deals specifically with EPA regulations. We are excited to add the EPA to the list of regulatory groups we are monitoring as we unfortunately see them getting more active in our industry. This past year, the committee completed the MSHA position statement and they have worked through the association memberships of the NSC to forward and inform members of Congress of our position.

A newly redesigned NSC web site has also been produced and was just released. The site is a more user-friendly site and has quite a few updates to bring the industry up to speed on the activities of the NSC. We encourage you to check out the redesigned site www.naturalstonecouncil.org so you can give feedback on your experience.

One of the larger activities of the NSC has been the sustainability issue. While we certainly understand the concern that many in our industry have regarding any standard implementation, we are truly confident that once our industry is informed of what the new standard will involve, you will agree that the benefits outweigh any negatives. It will truly level the playing field with competing systems that now have a "green" advantage over our green product. They have an advantage not because they are a greener product, but because they have out maneuvered our industry. They are currently exploiting that advantage and soon will no longer have that edge. We strongly encourage everyone who would like to comment and have direct input in the process to visit the link below and comment on the draft standard:

http://standards.nsf.org/apps/group_public/document.php?document_id=18824&wg_abbrev=jc_stone


The NSC continues to represent the stone industry in the following annual trade shows: AIA Convention, Greenbuild, StonExpo and Marmomacc. The NSC maintains an association membership in the USGBC. This has been a mainstay for the NSC for years and keeps our industry in front of our customer and has so during these very difficult economic times.

In the very near future, the NSC will begin the distribution of a quarterly newsletter for the industry. The newsletter will give everyone an opportunity to get regular updates on your favorite NSC activities. The NSC is a volunteer driven organization and the Board is comprised of many who give a tremendous amount of time to better our industry. We are asking that you consider giving a monetary contribution to the NSC today to help support the activities of the group. Dollars are critical to maintaining a healthy organization and to keeping our industry in front of our customers. We understand that times have been tough on everyone and would hope that we can count on everyone to give no matter what that level of support may be. If we all participate in contributing, then we as an industry will be stronger. I appreciate you taking a few minutes to get caught up to speed on the NSC and want to thank you in advance for your continued support. An easy on-line donation, and fully protected method, is possible from the new website. Should you wish to participate by mail a form is enclosed.

Sincerely,



Joe Dellacroce
NSC Fundraising Chairman



Jeff Buczkiewicz
NSC Treasurer