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Artisan Group Member Is the first in Colorado to Achieve the Coveted Marble Institute of America Accreditation

Front Range Stone in Englewood has become the First Stone Fabrication Shop in Colorado to be Accredited Through the (MIA).

ENGLEWOOD - (May 25, 2010) — Artisan Group member Front Range Stone is the first stone fabricator in Colorado to be Marble Institute of America Accredited. Accredited Natural Stone Fabricators represent the best companies that work on residential and commercial stone projects.

Currently, only 45 Natural Stone Fabricators in the country have achieved accreditation, 17 of which are Artisan Group members: Bangor Wholesale Laminates (Bangor, ME), Block Tops, Inc. (Anaheim, CA), Blume's Solid Surface Products (Freeport, PA), Consolidated Kitchens & Fireplaces (Omaha, NE), Creative Countertops (Las Vegas, NV), Duracite (Fairfield, CA), Eastern Surfaces (Allentown, PA), Fineline Pacific (Kent, WA), Front Range Stone (Englewood, CO), Innovative Surfaces (Hastings, MN), NBC Solid Surfaces (Springfield, VT), Rocksolid (Cleveland, OH), Rocky Mountain Stone (Albuquerque, NM), Solid Surfaces (Rochester, NY) Solid Tops (Easton, MD), Surface Products (Cornelius, NC), and Top Master (Kansas City, KS).

"Front Range Stone is now able to proudly display the accreditation logo, which symbolizes that they both are among the finest in the natural stone industry with respect to craftsmanship, safety, and business practices," says Garen Distelhorst, the Accreditation Manager at the MIA.

"Our product offering and customer service is unparalleled and warranties are offered on all products," says Brad Pearce, owner of Front Range Stone. "Achieving accreditation from the MIA is just one more step in offering our customers the best possible finished products, while ensuring overall employee and shop safety. We are proud of this achievement because it is a reflection of the pride and dedication our employees have to the Artisan Group of premier countertop fabricators."

Founded in 2001 by Clark Lechner and Brad Pearce, Front Range Stone has become one of Colorado's largest and oldest custom countertop and commercial surface fabricators. Offering a breadth of countertop products including Granite, Solid Surface, Quartz, and Exotic Wood, Front Range Stone can meet any design requirement at a reasonable price.

To become an Accredited Natural Stone Fabricator by the MIA, a company must have successfully completed three phases of application. Phase one was the completion of a lengthy application that required the applicant company to provide various documents and references which ensure that the company is in compliance with the 10 standards of accreditation as laid out by the MIA Accreditation Commission. Phase two required the company's qualifying agent (the designated company representative responsible for filing and maintaining accreditation records for the applicant company) to pass a 200

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Artisan Group members earn MIA Accreditation 2

question multiple-choice test. The exam tested the applicant's knowledge and application of material usage, installation, fabrication, restoration, care and maintenance, administration, legal/contracts, and jobsite and shop safety. The third phase was a comprehensive site visit, which included a facility review, document review, and one or more installation site visits.

Front Range Stone

Front Range Stone's inspired designs capture the natural radiance of organic minerals and maximize the versatility of man-made materials by expertly applying next-generation fabrication technologies. From laminate and solid surface to Artisan Stone Collection granite exotics, the company has a product to meet customer needs and budget. Front Range Stone services the entire state of Colorado.

Artisan Group™

Artisan Group is the premier network of stone fabricators in North America. All Artisan Group members have achieved, or have begun the process to achieve full accreditation with the Marble Institute of America. The group is among the first granite fabricators in the world to be working towards this distinction. The Artisan Group's extensive network allows the organization to offer the world's best granite from the best sources around the globe. Utilizing the most technically advanced, automated shops in the industry, highly skilled craftsmen ensure that each and every installation meets exacting standards. From classic to exotic, it offers the most extensive array of color choices in the industry, and with short lead times and competitive pricing, Artisan Group granite countertops are closer than one might expect. For more information, visit www.artisan-collection.com.

About the MIA

For over 60 years the Marble Institute of America has been the world's leading information resource and advocate for the natural dimension stone industry. MIA members include marble, granite, limestone, sandstone, and other natural stone producers and quarriers, fabricators, installers, distributors, and contractors around the world. The purpose of the MIA's accreditation program is to provide excellence in the natural stone industry and recognize companies demonstrating compliance with quality standards, so that the public values, has access to, and benefits from consistent, competent, and safe fabrication, installation and maintenance of natural stone.

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