

# Omega and Green Building

PRODUCTS INTERNATIONAL

## Building Green

Green building practices help create sustainable buildings that reduce their environmental impact, lower tenant operating costs, and provide healthier conditions for occupants indoors. Proper green design takes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in key areas of human and environmental health, such as: sustainable site development, water conservation, energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality. Building green not only conserves natural resources and improves occupants quality of life, but these buildings are more desirable to buyers.

## Omega Products International and Green

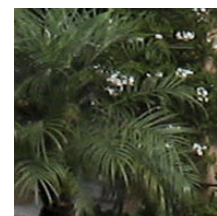
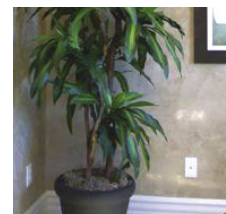
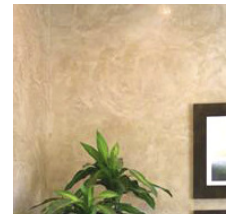
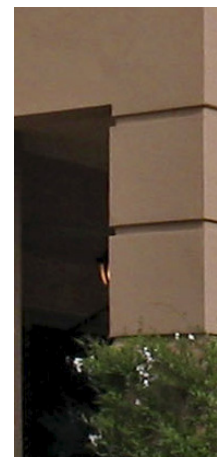
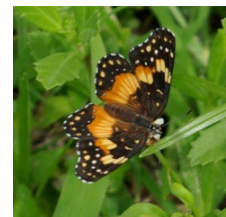
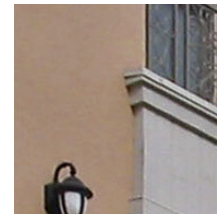
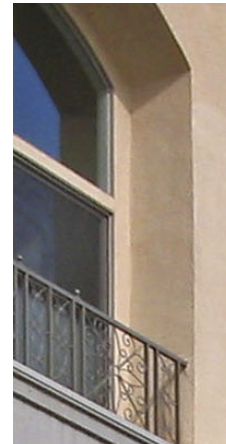
There are a number of "green" building standards developed by third parties such as the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System and by national, state, or local governments. These standards provide guidelines and/or rating systems for green building design, construction, and operations. While each standard has different requirements, they all generally have performance criteria relating to the key areas mentioned above. Omega Products International's family of products (Omega, Valentino, and Siena) can help builders and architects build sustainable projects through greater energy efficiency, the use of regional materials, the reduction of job site waste, and better indoor air quality.

## Improved Energy Efficiency

Optimizing the energy performance is critical to creating a sustainable building. One the most effective means to improve the energy efficiency of a building is the use of exterior insulation. Installing foam board sheathing on the exterior of framed walls is much more effective than cavity insulation alone. Foam board insulation will decrease energy use by reducing thermal bridging across the framing and air leakage through the wall. Omega has two wall systems that utilize foam board sheathing:

**AkroFlex EIF Systems:** AkroFlex Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems (EIFS) are code approved, lightweight, multi-component exterior wall assemblies. EIFS offers energy efficiency, design versatility, weatherability, and durability. AkroFlex requires the use of 1 to 4 inches of EPS foam board insulation.

**Diamond Wall Insulating One Coat Stucco System:** Diamond Wall Insulating One Coat Stucco is a code approved system that creates a long-lasting exterior cladding for residential and commercial projects. One coat stucco has the appearance and advantages of traditional three coat stucco, but with increased energy efficiency, reduced labor costs, and schedule savings. Diamond Wall uses .5 to 1.5 inches of foam board insulation.



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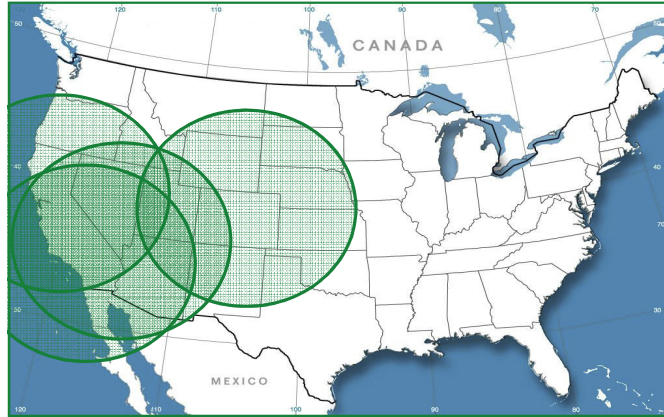
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## Materials & Resources Conservation

The use of products with recycled content and regional materials help to reduce the environmental impact of the building. Omega's Diamond Wall Concentrate (DWC) uses 6 percent by weight post-consumer content. DWC is the base coat for the Diamond Wall One Coat Stucco Systems and it is a great green choice for the scratch and brown coats in a traditional three coat stucco application.

Omega Products International has manufacturing facilities in Southern California, Northern California, Las Vegas, and in the Denver area. We make every effort to use locally sourced raw materials with most of our products using over 90% regional materials. Therefore, most of the Western United States can be provided with products that are locally manufactured and sourced.

Another important aspect to green building is the reduction of construction waste that ends up in the landfill. Omega's products produce very little waste on the job site. Applicators need to only mix the quantity of product needed and only a small amount is typically wasted during application.



Most of the West Coast is within a 500 mile radius of one of Omega Products' four plant locations.

## Improved Indoor Environmental Quality

The use of low-emitting coatings can minimize the quantity of indoor air contaminants that are odorous, irritating, and/or harmful, which is critical to the comfort and well-being of occupants. Omega has a family of low VOC finishes and coatings that can be used indoors or on exterior walls, including:

**Omega AkroFlex and OmegaFlex Acrylic Stucco Finishes:** Omega's 100% acrylic-based finishes, using the latest Dirt Pickup Resistance (DPR) technology, are designed to add texture and color to approved exterior or interior surfaces. These products provide long lasting, weather-resistant, durable finishes that will resist discoloration, fading, or mold growth. A wide variety of textures are possible depending on the finish choice and application method. They contain approximately 27 g/L VOCs.

**Valentino Decorative Plaster Finishes:** Omega's Valentino line of high-end interior and exterior decorative finishes can add classic beauty to any wall. The product line has acrylic-based, cement-based, and lime-based finishes, including true Venetian plaster. V Finish, Travertino, Bel Marmo, Tadelakt, Venezia, and AkroTique finishes all have very low VOC content.

Siena Tile & Stone Installation Products has thin set, grout, admix, and crack isolation membranes that are all low VOC. Moreover, the use of tile or stone indoors can result in better air quality when compared to carpet and even linoleum or wood-based flooring. Carpet can trap dirt and allergens, which can adversely effect the building occupants. Also, flooring made of carpet, wood, vinyl, or linoleum is typically manufactured with materials or are installed with adhesives that will out gas VOCs.

Omega Products can also help maintain good indoor air quality of a project through the installation of our Diamond Wall Insulating One Coat Stucco or AkroFlex EIF Systems. Using these systems not only improves the energy efficiency of a building, but the exterior foam board insulation also reduces the risk of water vapor condensation in the wall cavity. Moisture in the wall can lead to mold and mildew growth, which can significantly reduce the quality of indoor air.

To learn more about how Omega can help with green building or to get additional information on any of our various products please visit our website at [www.omega-products.com](http://www.omega-products.com), call our corporate office at 800-600-6634, or contact your local sales representative.

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