



## The Environmental Case for Corian®

DuPont™ Corian® solid surfaces come in more than 100 colors – but ultimately, all the colors of Corian® can be considered "green" and are striving to be even greener. That's because DuPont Corian® shares and supports the DuPont corporate environmental philosophy: *to conduct our business with respect and care for the environment.*

### **Our Product – What Makes Corian® "Green"?**

There are few products like Corian®. While we are striving for even less impact on the environment, the true color of Corian® comes through in a number of environmentally friendly ways. The following criteria are some of those important ways Corian® can be evaluated. Corian® is...

#### **Durable and Renewable**

Corian® lasts a long time and can easily be repaired and renewed, thus minimizing the desire or need to replace and dispose of it. It also can be removed, recut and either reinstalled as a new design or reworked into new products.

Because Corian® is reworkable, it generates up to one-third less waste than stone in the fabrication process.

#### **Chemically Inert & Environmentally Responsible**

Because it doesn't react readily with other chemicals or elements, Corian® has low impact on both indoor and outdoor environments, including ground, vegetation and water resources.

Corian® meets the most restrictive "food zone" standards for all types of food set by the NSF under the NSF/ANSI STANDARD 51 - "Food Equipment Materials", meaning that Corian® has been certified for use in commercial food preparation. The use of Corian® for food contact surfaces also complies with the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and all applicable food additive regulations.

The non-porous nature of Corian® means it will not support the growth of mold, mildew or bacteria – making Corian® the material of choice for healthcare, food service and "healthy home" building.

#### **Non-toxic**

At room temperature, Corian® is non-toxic, with virtually no "off-gassing" of volatile organic compounds.

In a fire situation, Corian® is clean-burning and produces an insignificant amount of smoke.

The joint adhesives and sealants used in Corian® applications have extremely low VOC emissions during the curing process, falling well below standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and California's South Coast and Bay Area Air Quality Management Districts.

## ***Our Processes – Reducing Our Environmental Footprint***

We continue to improve processes in order to minimize the impact of business operations on the environment through:

### **Responsible choices in raw materials**

Pigments used to manufacture Corian® are FDA listed and selected from materials free of heavy metals, toxic or carcinogenic ingredients.

We encourage our suppliers to adopt manufacturing processes that are safe and environmentally responsible.

### **Responsible choices in manufacturing processes**

Improved processes and technologies are reducing waste generation during the manufacturing process.

Scrap and off-spec Corian® is being used as raw material for new product applications.

We're making our processes cleaner too. From 1991 to 2001, we reduced hazardous waste generation by 63 percent and, from 1987 to 2001, we reduced emissions of cleaning solvents by 98 percent.

### **Responsible choices in packaging**

Our policy on packaging waste is, in order of preference: to minimize use, reuse if possible, recycle where practical or incinerate with energy recovery. Approximately 30 percent of the shipment platforms for Corian® sheet are collected from fabricators and returned for reuse or recycling, and we are working toward achieving a 50 percent return rate.

In 2002, DuPont received a Governor's Award for Pollution Prevention from Governor George Pataki for "outstanding efforts in protecting New York's natural resources." DuPont's Yerkes facility – where most Corian® is produced – implemented a Six Sigma-based program to improve manufacturing processes and reduce the number of defective products. Our efforts resulted in an annual reduction of 867,000 pounds of manufacturing waste that formerly went to a landfill and cost savings of more than \$2 million.

We received a similar award in 1995 for achieving a 98 percent reduction in the amount of methylene chloride (a cleaning solvent) used at our Yerkes facility over a five-year period.

## ***Our Commitment –***

As DuPont and Corian® continue on the journey of sustainable growth, we will strive to further reduce our impact on the environment while delivering exceptional aesthetics, performance and service you've come to expect.

DuPont™ and Corian® are a trademark and registered trademark of E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company. Only DuPont makes Corian.