

**TILE CONTRACTORS  
ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII**

As 2023 comes to a close,  
we would like to send  
you our wishes for joy  
and blessings during the  
holiday season and a very  
Happy New Year. May  
2024 be filled with good  
health, prosperity and  
happiness.

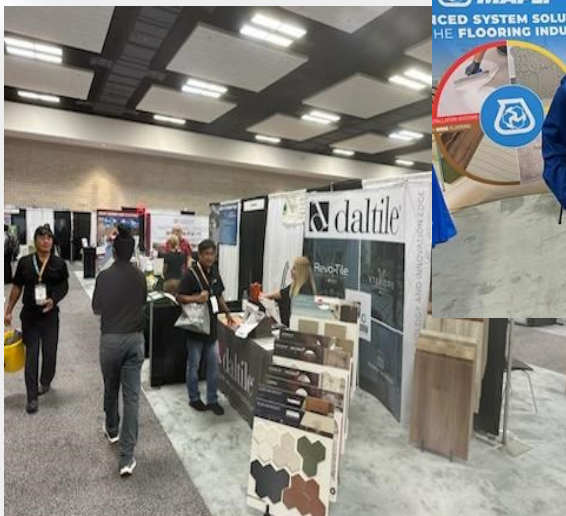
**Tile Contractors Association of  
Hawaii Trustees**

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The TCAH participated in the PBX show on September 27, 2023 with booths from our members to showcase the products and services of the tile industry.



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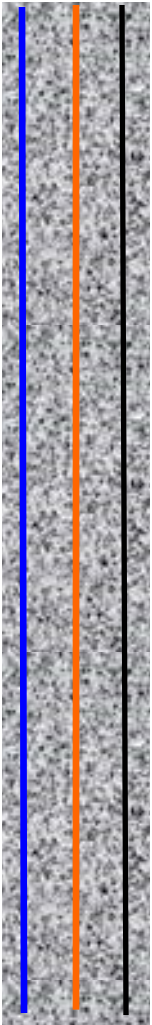


We would like to share a beautiful project from one of our members. The Mosaic Mural was provided by Evergreen by Debra, LLC.

Hoku, stars in the night sky. This was the seed of inspiration for Artist Kim Duffett's bronze and stainless-steel sculpture Starbuck at Mililani Town Center. At the foot of the Starbuck lays a mosaic of a Hawaiian Star Compass, the ancient navigator's guide to the stars. Created in Venetian glass tile, it shows a compass superimposed on a view of our Milky Way galaxy as it is seen in the nighttime sky.

Evergreen by Debra, LLC, Since 1994  
Kaneohe HI 96744; 808-239-6599  
Porcelain & Glass Tile—Art & Images in  
Hard Materials, Planters—100% Permeable  
Pavers

Credit: <https://KimDuffett.com/>



# TILE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

## Continuing Education with the IMI

The IMI offers an array of continuing education opportunities for signatory contractors with the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers (BAC).

Advanced Certifications for Tile Installers (ACT) is an industry-recognized program that certifies the skills and expertise of installers in key areas. The program helps assure tile installers are equipped to create high-quality, long-lasting projects that comply with the latest industry codes and standards.

### BENEFITS

#### FOR BUILDING OWNERS AND DESIGN PROFESSIONALS

- Improve quality assurance with vetted installers who have the expertise to perform complex projects and create high quality installations.

**Ensure your project meets ANSI specifications and TCNA guidelines.**

#### FOR BAC CRAFTWORKERS AND CONTRACTORS

- Increase your work opportunities with a recognized credential included in project specifications.

Establish your expertise as a reputable tile contractor and installer by learning principles and techniques from renowned practitioners.

### CERTIFICATION AREAS

Installers can pursue ACT certification in one or more of the following areas:

**Grouts**

**Large Format Tile & Substrate Preparation**

**Membranes**

**Mortar (Mud) Floors**

**Mortar (Mud) Walls**

**Shower Receptors (TCNA Method B415, B421, and B421C)**

**Gauged Porcelain Tile and Gauged Porcelain Tile Panels/Slabs**

Please visit <https://imiweb.org/advanced-certifications-in-tile/>



# TILE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

## Reducing Our Carbon Footprint with Tile: Part 1 – The Basics

by Scott Conwell, FAIA, FCSI, LEED AP, Director of Industry Development  
International Masonry Institute

In this age of increasing awareness of climate change, carbon emissions, and conservation of our natural resources, it has become essential to approach building construction in a way that respects our environment. The goal of Hawaii's design and construction industry is to use environmentally friendly, durable, and resilient building materials. Ceramic tile is the natural choice for achieving that goal, and TCAH contractors should have the ability to communicate the sustainable benefits of tile to their customers, clients, and stakeholders. This article is the first in a 6-part series about the many ways ceramic tile contributes to sustainable project goals by... just being tile.

Click here for a short video clip about tile's inherent sustainable qualities:

<https://youtu.be/OZ5KPKK3hrs>

Anecdotally, we have always known that tile and stone are durable and sustainable materials, and with the industry's research and documentation on materials and performance, we now have the data to prove it. From its manufacturing, its transparency in reporting material ingredients, its long service life, and its installation by qualified labor, ceramic tile can help reduce the global warming potential of Hawaii's buildings.

### Manufacture of Tile

Ceramic tile is manufactured from raw materials that are plentiful and naturally occurring - ingredients you can actually pronounce, like clay, feldspar, and cement. These natural materials are extracted from the earth, mixed together, pulverized, spray-dried, formed into shape, then glazed and fired, creating a strong and durable product. Techniques like water recovery during drying and the use of abatement filters to capture dust emissions during firing have greatly reduced the impact of tile manufacturing.

The result is a material that is resistant to moisture, abrasion, impact, fire, bacteria, and mold... a product that, when installed by trained and qualified BAC tile installers and TCAH contractors, will last a lifetime.

Click here for a short video clip about how tile's manufacturing contributes to carbon reduction:

<https://youtu.be/kekYVlqVlbc>

Our next newsletter will talk about how the raw materials used to manufacture ceramic tile are inventoried, assessed, and ultimately disclosed using standard reporting mechanisms like Health Product Declarations (HPD) and Manufacturer Inventories (MI), required by LEED and other sustainability rating systems, empowering architects and specifiers to make informed decisions about the products they specify for their projects.

