



# PRESS RELEASE

Website: [www.tileusa.com](http://www.tileusa.com) . Literature: [literature@tileusa.com](mailto:literature@tileusa.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## PAUL E. DINKEL AWARDED TCA'S TILE PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD

Paul E. Dinkel was awarded the Tile Council of North America's (TCA) prestigious 2004 Tile Person of the Year award during Coverings 2004 in Orlando, Florida. Each year, TCA recognizes a person who has been instrumental in increasing the consumption of ceramic tile.

Paul Dinkel started his tile career working summers for his uncles while he was still in high school. After retiring from the Navy and Navy Reserves, Paul started and managed a tile contracting business for eight years. He then accepted a sales position with Stylon Tile Company. While covering his territory, Mr. Dinkel noticed tile contractors were experiencing failures when tile was installed in wet areas.

Mr. Dinkel returned to the tile contractor business with a desire to find a solution to this problem. In his basement after work, he began an intensive research and development program with glass mesh mortar units. This quest produced a backerboard and underlayment comprised of lightweight concrete and glass mesh for ceramic tile applications that would not degrade when wet.

In 1967, a new corporation emerged manufacturing the patented and trademarked new product called WonderBoard.

WonderBoard, was the first cementitious backerboard and as such, revolutionized the ceramic tile industry. Prior to WonderBoard, tile over wood floors was set in a mud bed, a time-consuming and expensive method. The introduction of WonderBoard allowed tile installations to be completed faster and at less cost. On walls, the use of WonderBoard eliminated failures that were previously occurring in wet occurs.

Mr. Dinkel has devoted his time, effort and money to promote professionally installed ceramic tile. His innovative achievements and generous support for installer education continues to enhance the contractor trade as well as our entire industry.

###

Contact: Shannon Woodmansee, Director of Membership & Public Relations  
864-646-8453, Ext. 107

**TILE COUNCIL OF NORTH AMERICA, INC.**

100 Clemson Research Boulevard . Anderson, South Carolina 29625 . Phone: 864-646-8453 . Fax: 864-646-2821



Testing Services: [testing@tileusa.com](mailto:testing@tileusa.com) . Literature Orders: [literature@tileusa.com](mailto:literature@tileusa.com)