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The Ardente brothers — (from left) Mark, Evan, Paul and Bruce — are shown in the stunning WaterSpot showroom in Natick, Mass. The Ardente family has built a very successful business in the Northeast, with five wholesale locations and four showrooms. Members of the second, third and fourth generation of the family are currently involved with Ardente Supply and the WaterSpot showrooms. Read much more on page 62.

NKBA reveals K/B trends for 2012

HACKETTSTOWN, N.J. — More than 350 National Kitchen & Bath Association member designers took part in the 2012 NKBA Design Trends Survey to cite the materials, product types and styles that they've incorporated into their kitchen and bath designs over the final three months of 2011. While broad trends won't be evident in every local market, the following are 10 overall trends for kitchens and baths across the United States and Canada.

(Turn to Kitchen-bath... page 78.)

Conbraco adds to Apollo brand

MATTHEWS, N.C. — Conbraco Industries Inc. introduces the most recent addition to its Apollo® brand: Apollo® Fire Protection System Solutions (FPSS). The fire protection fittings were previously sold through Elkhart Products Corporation. Both Conbraco Industries Inc. and Elkhart Products Corporation are Aalberts Industries companies.

(Turn to Apollo... page 55.)

'Top management team in their industry'

HD Supply sells Industrial PVF business

SAN DIEGO — HD Supply announced March 12 that it entered into a definitive agreement to sell its Industrial PVF business

to Shale-Inland Holdings LLC, an affiliate of investment firms TowerBrook Capital Partners LP and The Stephens Group, LLC.

The transaction closed last month, subject to obtaining customary approvals.

"After careful evaluation, we determined that divesting our Industrial PVF business is in the best interests of our company as we seek to continue strengthening our industry-leading businesses," said Joe DeAngelo, CEO of HD Supply. "The Industrial PVF team, with the expertise of its many seasoned industry veterans, has done a tremendous job and they can be proud that this new chapter is the result of the momentum they have built and the success of their initiatives."

(Turn to Shale-Inland... page 55.)



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Color Trends 2012

In step with style: Provocative tangerine tango

BY LINDA JENNINGS
Showroom specialist



Uplifting and energizing, it's no surprise that kitchen and bath showrooms and the design community as a whole are quickly embracing Tangerine Tango, Pantone's 2012 Color of the Year. According to a report released by the *Associated Press*, "The world doesn't need more gray, and the blues are covered, too. What consumer products need is a jolt, a shot of energy and boldness, all of which comes from Tangerine Tango, the reddish-orange hue that Pantone announced as its top color for 2012."

Over the past several years, orange has grown in popularity and acceptance among designers and consumers. A provocative attention-getter, Tangerine Tango is appealing in not only fashion and home décor but its also making its way into luxury kitchens and baths.

"Color can be a mood lifter, which is why we chose Tangerine Tango," said Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Color Institute. "We thought that would be the perfect color, one that will get people's attention."

Sophisticated but at the same time dramatic and seductive, Tangerine Tango is already appearing in plumbing and decorative hardware showrooms as well as high-end homes and even hotels. Victoria + Albert's freestanding tubs, while regal in white, became fabulously glamorous when painted in this luscious color. The freestanding tub has always been the centerpiece of the bath, and for today's consumer looking to add vibrant style, Victoria + Albert's tubs allow custom painting of their exter-

Victoria + Albert's freestanding tubs become fabulously glamorous when painted tangerine.



iors. The tubs are made from eco-friendly Englishcast®, having a smooth exterior surface easy to decorate using either oil or water based paints. And when it comes to custom decorating Tangerine Tango is hands-down this year's color of choice.

Pyrolave countertop surfaces can be ordered in similar radiant sunset shades, adding impact and exotic flair to any décor. From residential and commercial kitchens to bathrooms, tabletops, swimming pools, fireplace



Glazed lava Pyrolave countertop surfaces can be ordered in radiant sunset shades and are at home in contemporary or traditional settings.

facades and outdoor living spaces, the glazed lava stone surfaces are perfectly at home in contemporary or traditional settings.

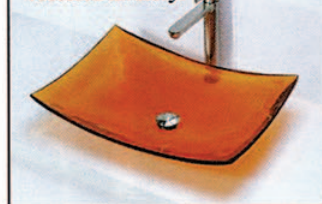
While the striking good looks of Pyrolave speak for themselves, the engineering process goes deep beneath the surface. Volvic lava stone is extracted from the heart of volcanic craters in Auvergne, France. Blocks of stone are mined and then cut into slabs, imbued with gloriously-hued enamels and fired at temperatures exceeding 1000° C. The finished masterpiece can withstand almost anything – high temperatures, acids, corrosive products – making these surfaces as durable as they are visually captivating.

Orange-hued patterns are also capturing attention, particularly in unlikely spaces. KOHLER's Ipanema bathroom sink features oversized patterns and mini-prints in vivid, contrasting colors, pieced together eclectically, taking inspiration from some of the most hip fashion trends of today. Part of the Top Art Collection and named for the popular beach in Rio de Janeiro, the Ipanema infuses both positive energy and playfulness into its surroundings and naturally lends itself to coordinating orange accessories.

For a pop of color in the bath, Decolav's intensely vivid 2806 Magma Lavatory Sink from their In-

candescence™ Collection does not disappoint. Crafted from resin, this designer lavatory is not only durable, but extremely easy to care for. The uniqueness of this sink is its ability to

Decolav's vivid 2806 resin Magma Lavatory Sink from the Incandescence™ Collection can be used as both an above counter vessel or a semi-recessed lavatory.



be used as both an above counter vessel or a semi-recessed lavatory, due to its gently sloping sides. It's sure to add a touch of excitement.

Tangerine Tango looks great on tile, too and can be used on walls or floors in bathrooms, kitchens, living rooms, hallways and almost any other living space you can think of. Go lux with Italian tiles; choose patterns to accent and solids for larger projects. The beauty of handmade Italian tile is unmistakable and even more mesmerizing when created in such a spirited color.

For a quick Tangerine Tango fix, Atlas Homewares offers its vibrant Indochine series of knobs and pulls. On cabinetry and furniture that needs a boost, there really is nothing quite like a squirt of tangerine. Whether you choose a one-inch cone, two-inch round knob, or five-inch pull, these shapes combined with color have at-



itude. Inexpensive and easy to install, they add budget-friendly, instant, high-voltage style.

"I love this color because it romances the consumer... I see hot summer nights, playful encounters in the town piazza, and retro fashion at its liveliest," said Adrienne Morea, CEO and Creative Director of Atlas Homewares. "Dull, boring or uninteresting consumers need not apply!"

Aquabross' Lady Chef kitchen faucet adds a jolt of color to the

kitchen with its orange retro colored spirals. The professional pull down spray kitchen faucet will give you motivation to host dinner parties as an excuse to show it off!



Every room in the home can get a jolt of energy by incorporating a splash of Pantone's new Tangerine Tango 2012 Color of the Year. The best way to use this TANGERINE color trend is to introduce just a small accent – like a knob on a bedside cabinet; pillows on a sofa; a fabulous orange-ish red serving bowl on the center of the dining room table with matching napkins; or even tangerine colored soaps in the bathroom. This also is a great time to bring out your vintage Fiesta Ware... An orange plate and cup for the table or an orange mixing bowl on the kitchen counter will bring this classic dinnerware into the current.

For those a bit more daring, experiment with painting one wall tangerine for a drama point. And for those who have a passion for color, go bolder with an orange-painted claw foot tub in the bath or an orange countertop in the kitchen. This year, it's all about color and creating a point of drama, and kitchen and bath showrooms need to gear up for this emerging color trend."

Tangerine Tango takes us boldly into the new year with confidence. Eismann perhaps put it best when she said, "There's the element of encouragement with orange, it's building on the ideas of courage and action, that we want to move on to better things." It's definitely time to Tango! ■

Get the Look!
For more information on the trends mentioned here go to:

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www.atlasmomewares.com
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