



# MANISCALCO®

Australian for Mosaics™



## **Bass Strait Mosaics Usage – Installation – Care & Maintenance November 2011**

### **Recommended Usage**

Bass Strait Mosaics is a collection of marble, travertine, and basalt stones, with glass and metal inserts. It is mounted as a mosaic in many different sizes and shapes. Since they are natural stones, they can have a shade variation of V-3. They are available with Polished or Tumbled textures. Polished surfaces may scratch, use caution when grouting, and common sense when choosing the location for use.

They may be used on interior residential or commercial walls. The 1" x 1" may be used in residential light use floors. Waterfalls, High/Low borders, and Interlocks are not recommended for floors. They can be used on exterior walls in frost-free areas. They can be used in wet areas, but not in submerged areas or steam rooms. Since they are mosaics they are ideal for curved surfaces. Sealing of all natural stone is recommended. Most Bass Strait Mosaics are calcium based stones, so they are susceptible to acids.

### **Installation Instructions**

#### **General**

- 1) Make sure this product is inspected and accepted by the end user before installing. No refunds or adjustments of any kind will be made by Maniscalco or your supplier after the product is installed.
- 2) To cut, use a tile wet saw with a diamond blade designed for cutting stone. Pearl, MK, Target, and many other blade manufacturers make blades for stone. Always wear eye protection.

#### **Suggested Installation Method**

- 1) Always use a licensed contractor.
- 2) Always confirm in person with the end user / specifier that the product being installed is the correct product before installing.
- 3) Always inspect the product for unintended flaws that are not part of the fashion or style of the product. Do not install defective or damaged product. If there is a question about the quality of the product, contact your supplier before proceeding.
- 4) Make sure the substrate is suitable for tile. Choose and follow the best technique for your project.

Refer to TCNA handbook, page 10 and all pages pertaining to substrate preparation.

And ANSI A108.1B, A108A2.1.8, C1396, C1396M-04

- 5) Make sure crack isolation membranes and water proofing membranes are considered for your type of installation where necessary.

TCNA handbook, page 9, 10

ANSI a118.10, A108.12

## **Bass Strait Mosaics continued**

6) Make sure expansion joints and movement joints are considered and used when necessary. Extra soft joints may be required in high heat areas. Use a soft (caulking) joint between the tile and any other material in a continuous installation. Use a soft joint where two different planes come together. Use a soft joint where the tile abuts to plumbing fixtures, cabinets; counter tops, window or door moldings, and bath tubs/shower pans in accordance with the TCNA handbook.

TCNA handbook, page 8, 9, 68, 69, and EJ171-05

7) All interlocking patterns should be installed with a 1/3 or 1/2 sheet offset from course to course to achieve the best blend of the patterns. Before installing, lay out the mosaics dry first to achieve your desired pattern.

8) Use a modified thin-set mortar that meets or exceeds ANSI 118.4. Follow the manufacturer's instructions. If using a dark grout, use gray thin-set. If using a light grout, use a white thin-set.

9) Use the correct size notch trowel depending on the size of the product and your desired results. A 5/32" x 5/32" is the best for all Bass Strait. Make sure you achieve full contact between the back of the tile and the thin-set.

10) Allow the thin-set to cure according to the manufacturer's instructions.

11) Pre-sealing is suggested and may aid in clean up. However, do not allow the sealer to saturate the edges of the stone pieces preventing the grout from sticking to the edges.

12) Non-sanded grout may be used.

13) Read and follow all manufacturers' instructions on the grout.

14) Buff and cure the grout according to the grout manufacturer's instructions. Once the grout is cured, seal the Mosaics and grout.

The installer is responsible for choosing and using the correct installation practices to achieve an acceptable finished product. Please refer to the TCNA hand book regularly, it is revised each year and techniques can change. Our goal is to have trouble-free installations that can be enjoyed for a lifetime. Use constitutes acceptance, there will be no credits, refunds, cash settlements, and etc. made after the product is installed regardless of the circumstances. The TCNA website is [www.tileusa.com](http://www.tileusa.com).

### **Care & Maintenance**

Regular cleaning with a mild bathroom cleaner or neutral stone cleaner and a soft cloth or sponge according to the manufacturer of the cleaner is recommended. Buff dry with a soft cloth. Do not use acids, corrosive, or abrasive cleaners.