



# MANISCALCO®

Australian for Mosaics™



## **Sydney Harbor Metals and Borders Usage – Installation – Care & Maintenance August 2011**

### **Recommended Usage**

Sydney Harbor Metals may be installed on interior wall locations such as shower and tub surrounds, kitchen and vanity backsplashes. It is not recommended for floors. Cutting exposes the product to the possibility of corrosion in wet areas. Seal it with a water-based sealer. Keep this product at least eight inches away from a heat source, such as an open flame on a gas burning stove or the edge of a fire box. Please refer to the usage chart on our web site for other areas of use.

Sydney Harbor Metals are resistant to most food-borne stains, however some acidic foods can stain these products. Merely wipe acidic foods off the product as soon as they are noticed. Because Sydney Harbor Metals are not recommended for countertops, it will be rare that foods will contact this product. Sealing with a water-based sealer will reduce the staining process.

### **Installation Instructions**

#### **General**

- 1) Sydney Harbor Metals are a composite product made of resin, ceramic beads, and metal shavings. This mixture is poured into a mold and allowed to cure. They are not fired.
- 2) Be careful not to scratch the surface with grout or abrasive cleaners, or damage the surface with solvent based sealers. None of the finishes require sealing in dry areas, however, you may seal it in tub and shower areas with a water-based tile or grout sealer.
- 3) All colors are V3 in shading. This product is intended to have a rustic or hand-made look. No two pieces are the same.
- 4) Make sure all product is inspected 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. The installer is responsible for installing the correct material. Use constitutes acceptance.
- 5) To cut, use a tile wet saw with a diamond blade designed for cutting ceramic or porcelain tiles. Target, Pearl, MK, and many other blade manufacturers make blades for ceramic and porcelain. Always cut with the fashion side up. 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, and is suitable for the project.

## Sydney Harbor Metals and Borders continued

- 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 the TCNA handbook, page 10, and all pages pertaining to substrate preparation.
- 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.
- 6) The Sydney Harbor Metals may expand and contract differently than adjacent tile. Make sure expansion joints and movement joints are considered and used when necessary. Keep this product over eight inches away from an open flame. Areas of concern would be fireplace surrounds and backsplashes behind cook tops. Extra soft joints may be required in these 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 every six feet in a continuous run, or according to the TCNA handbook. Use a soft joint where the metal abuts to plumbing fixtures, cabinets, counter tops, window or door moldings, and bath tubs in accordance with the TCNA handbook.  
TCNA handbook, page 8, 9, 68, 69, and EJ171-05.
- 7) Use a flexible modified thin-set mortar that meets or exceeds ANSI 118.4 (a flexible acrylic mortar system such as those from Mapei, Laticrete, TEC, Customs, C-Cure, Siena, or equivalent). Follow the manufacturer's instructions. Organic Mastic and Epoxy are not recommended for Sydney Harbor Metals. Use white thin-set with light colored grouts and gray thin-set with dark colored grouts.
- 8) Use the correct size notch trowel depending on the size of the product and your desired results. In most cases a 5/32 x 5/32 v-notch trowel will be used. Do not allow the thin-set to rise up in the joints. Make sure you achieve full contact between the back of the tile and thin-set; you may use a clean grout float to embed the tile.
- 9) Allow the thin-set to cure according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- 10) Use a modified grout. Grout with flexing capabilities or a flexible additive is preferred.
- 11) Non-sanded grout is highly recommended. Be careful not to scratch the tile with the grout. The tiles can be damaged by over-rubbing during the grouting process.
- 12) Read and follow the grout manufacturers' instructions.
- 13) Buff and cure the grout according to the grout manufacturer's instructions. Sealing the grout is optional, follow all instructions regarding sealing. The metal does not require sealing and is non-absorbent. The Oil Rubbed Bronze color is very susceptible to solvent (oil) based sealers.

Although very tough, all tile can scratch, use common sense when choosing the installed location.

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

## **Sydney Harbor Metals and Borders continued**

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 neutral tile cleaner and a soft cloth or sponge is recommended. Use cleaning products that don't leave a residue behind. Rinse with a soft wet cloth. Buff dry with a soft cloth. Do not use acids or cleaners containing acids or oils, corrosive chemicals, or abrasive cleaners.

### **Care and Maintenance for Borders Containing Sydney Harbor Metal**

Regular cleaning with a neutral tile or stone cleaner is recommended. This will also clean the glass and metal components in some of these products. Use cleaning products that don't leave a residue behind. Rinse with a soft wet cloth. Buff dry with a soft cloth. Do not use acids or cleaners containing acids or oils, corrosive chemicals, or abrasive cleaners.