

the latest product developments

new & improved

Ornamentation

Scanning arcnewsnow.com has become a curious highlight of my workday. Headlines capture what's going on in the world of architecture and what experts on the subject think of it. Recently, Eric Felten, architectural blogger for the *Wall Street Journal*, commented on the monotony of the big glass and steel boxes that have become the archetype for modern skyscrapers. He lamented the intricate ornamentation of old masters that has gone by the wayside, referring to the celebrated organic designs of Louis Sullivan, that decorated monolithic structures, enhancing the pedestrian experience by bringing a human scale into the frameworks. In response, I wrote to the critic to point out Studio Gang's very cool Aquas Tower, a relatively new Chicago skyscraper where structural ornamentation was not forgotten. Architect Jeanne Gang devised a series of unique concrete balconies protruding from the building at different widths to create the appearance of an undulating, rippled facade that certainly warrants recognition. While your plans for ornamentation may not be so grand, there are more subtle avenues. Consider the Metropolitan Ceramics tiles and Metal-Span panels on this page, or check out the patterns on the veneers from Abet Laminati and wallpaper from York Wallcoverings on the next page. Allow the historical legacy of Louis Sullivan to live on by using the tiles on page 52. And coming full circle to Jean Gang, let her modern interpretation of ornamentation add a twist to your next project.

—Megan Mazzocco, *associate editor*



↑ **SCRAP NO LONGER**

Metropolitan Ceramics is reusing its own waste scrap to create Enviroquarry, a new quarry tile manufactured from 50% recycled pre-consumer content. The recycled material, a combination of fired scrap and waste products produced during the extrusion process used to create standard products, is blended to meet the same performance standards as the manufacturer's other offerings. Tiles are then kiln flashed to create random color variation for added visual appeal. Visit metroceramics.com or Circle **(484)**

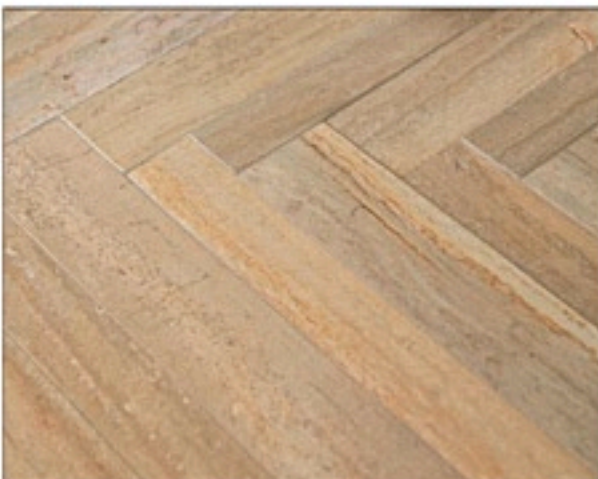
↓ **PLAYIN' THE CHELLA**

Bouclé that befits barstools. **Chella Textiles'** luxury performance fabrics make unlikely scenarios quite possible by interpreting traditional interior textiles into damasks, tweeds, bouclés, velvets, matelasses, chenilles and sateens that withstand real-life and ever-changing elements. Below is Luxe Bouclé in Salt & Pepper, a 100% solution-dyed acrylic bouclé. Visit chellatextiles.com or Circle **(483)**



↓ **MID-CENTURY REVISITED**

New Helsinki and Zapala stone and tile collections from **Walker-Zanger** represent the revival of mid-century design. Helsinki is evocative of the marble elements that modern architects such as Mies van der Rohe used to bring warmth to otherwise minimalist designs. Zapala's warm palette features a blend of tan, taupe and khaki laced with ribbons of caramel veining. Visit walkerzanger.com or Circle **(482)**



↓ **SPANNING THE GLOBE**

The new 7.2 Insul-Rib from **Metl-Span** combines a traditional 7.2-in. rib panel with a urethane foam core, bringing insulating capabilities to a widely used metal-panel profile. The 36-in.-wide product is offered in thicknesses ranging from 2.5 in. to 6 in. and in lengths from 8 ft. to 50 ft. Colors available include a range of standard and premium options. Visit metlspan.com or Circle **(481)**

