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House uses limestone plaster

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12.14.04 - The first house in Sonoma County to be built using a natural limestone plaster is near completion in Glen Ellen.

Because of the way this plaster is produced - using low-temperature kilns as opposed to the high-temperature kilns used for making cement - it is estimated that a house of 4,100 square feet using limestone plaster will save 7.2 tons of carbon dioxide from being released into the atmosphere. The plaster also absorbs carbon dioxide during its curing time, making it an environmentally friendly house during construction and throughout its life cycle.

"This product really makes sense if we are serious about reducing carbon emissions in California ... If this plaster became the new standard by replacing traditional stucco then we could potentially eliminate 5 to 10 million pounds of photo carbons per year in the near future in Sonoma County alone," said architect Daniel Nichols, of Sonoma, who designed the house.

The limestone plaster is produced in Europe and is imported by TransMineral USA, headquartered in Petaluma. It is being used on the renovation of the Petaluma library as well as other buildings throughout the Bay Area.

For more information, contact Daniel Nichols at 996-0164.

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