

## New water reclaiming system automates waste reduction

By Bonnie Lewis

Producing Elastek roof coatings has become even more environmentally friendly with the addition of the ALAR™ Flex-O-Star water system. This comprehensive wastewater treatment machinery reduces production waste to a minimal amount of damp sand-like biodegradable lime, calcium, and diatomaceous earth. And 'dirty water' from production is reclaimed for reuse as clean water in the production process.

The expansive machine is an amazing series of motorized systems that process the water through several tanks. The computer-based equipment automatically analyzes the concentration of contaminants in the wastewater and calculates its optimal treatment, sequence, time, and rate.

As wastewater travels through the treatment process, suspended solids are kept under agitation. The water enters the filter pan, liquid is vacuumed through the filter aid media, and the solids accumulate on the revolving drum's surface. A variable-speed knife advances, removing the solids from the drum's surface with lathe-like precision. The solids fall off in a thin sheet into a standard dumpster. The biodegradable reduced solids (clay & dirt-like) can be safely discarded.

When the treatment tank is empty, the system's filter cleans itself automatically. When the filter is clean, the unit shuts off and is now ready for the next batch.

Once training is complete and the system is tweaked to Elastek wastewater specifications, the ALAR Flex-O-Star will process the water with minimal supervision, saving labor, money, and the environment.



The ALAR Flex-O-Star water reclaimant is an expansive automated system.

1



Wastewater fills the holding tank.

2



Water travels through the treatment processes

3



Solids accumulate on the revolving drum above, the variable-speed knife removes the solids from the drum's surface, then deposits in a dumpster.

4



The reduced waste is biodegradable clay & dirt-like, and can be discarded safely.

5



Clean water is ready for re-use

# Rooftop adhesion test determines coating quality

By Jerry Rockwell

The adhesion pull test is a standard laboratory procedure performed to show how well a coating will adhere to a roof substrate. The test is performed by applying a fabric strip to the roof substrate using the coating to be tested. Once the coating has cured, the strip is removed using a scale that measures the pounds of force required to remove the strip. The reading is recorded; the test is performed several times to assure accuracy.

Last month, I took the adhesion test to two rooftops that had several areas where the coating had lifted, exposing the substrate. The areas tested appeared to have been coated several times with similar results. I wanted to test the substrate in several areas to help determine adhesiveness prior to recoating.

Before actual testing began, the testing areas needed to be clean and dry. A solution of TSP was sprayed on the area to clean it, then I used a damp sponge to remove any dirt and excess cleaner. A spray bottle of water was used to rinse away remaining TSP residue. The area was dried with a paper towel and allowed to solar dry for about five minutes.

Once the area was prepared, I applied a thin coat of Solar Tek Extreme with a foam brush and allowed it to flash dry. When the coating became tacky, I applied Elastek PolyTek fabric cut into 1"x 6" strips. The strips were cut in the direction of the reinforcing fibers.

I thoroughly saturated the strip (except for one inch at the end) by dipping it into the bucket of roof coating. I carefully applied the strip to the cleaned area of the roof, and smoothed it to avoid trapping air underneath. Once the coating dried, duct tape was applied to the uncoated end, and a hole punched in the center of the duct tape. Several strips were applied to each rooftop in a similar fashion.

The strips were applied on Friday, and I returned the following Tuesday for the pull test. I inserted the scale's hook into the hole on the fabric strip and pulled away steadily at a 45-degree angle.

The adhesion rating scores for these tests were low. There are several potential remedies to consider prior to recoating a roof with low adhesion ratings.

- It is always best to wait for dry weather to coat the roof. This will eliminate the chance for moisture becoming trapped under the coating.
- Special preparation is indicated if there is evidence of ponding water, and repair of faulty roof drainage systems may be required.
- To assure ultimate adhesion of future coating, a coat of Elastek High Tek Basecoat can be applied before applying the topcoat.

When applying Elastek, always follow the recommended application specifications to assure the very best results are achieved. Check the many "how-to" bulletins available on our website, and always feel free to contact us with any questions. Elastek wants its roof coating customers to be satisfied now and for years to come.



*Jerry Rockwell uses a scale to perform a pull test on the roof to determine coating adhesion.*

## New Point-of-Sales posters and flyer available to Elastek dealers and distributors

Colorful point-of-sale promotional posters for Elastek roof coating and Duratex Stucco are now available for Elastek dealers and distributors. The full-color posters are 19 inches by 27 inches on 80-pound cover stock. They can even be displayed in the window, as the inks are fade-resistant.

Another new point-of-sale item is our Duratex Stucco flyer. These 8.5-inch-by-4-inch flyers illustrate before and after use of Duratex Stucco on parapet walls, one of the many uses of this patch and repair product.

If you are an Elastek dealer or distributor

and have not yet received your posters or flyers, please contact Pat Cortez at 624-6282 or email [admin@elastek.com](mailto:admin@elastek.com).



**Save a Roof • Save Energy**

**E-las-tek**  
CERTIFIED COOL ROOF COATINGS

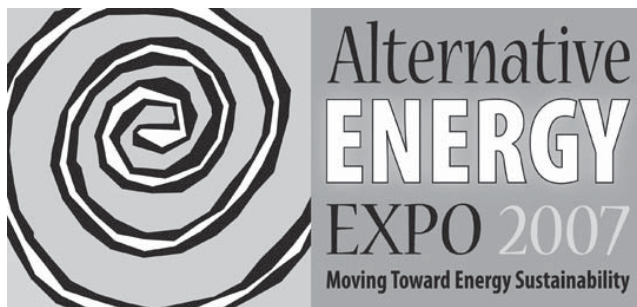
**Available Here!**

**Stucco all cracked up?**

**E-las-tek**  
DURATEX STUCCO™

**Available Here!**

## Visit the Elastek Alternative Energy exhibit in Booth 58



**September 14-15**  
**Tucson Convention Center**  
**260 S. Church Ave.**  
**Tucson, Arizona**

Elastek is pleased to sponsor the Tucson Alternative Energy Expo 2007, scheduled for September 14 and 15 in the North Exhibit Hall of the Tucson Convention Center. Please stop by the Elastek booths #58 & #59 anytime between 3:00 and 7:00pm on Friday, or between 10:00am and 6:00pm on Saturday.

Tucson has been steadily expanding its reputation for work in solar energy and sustainable building, and this Expo celebrates and showcases those efforts. Elastek is a major sponsor of this event, along with Tucson Electric Power, Southwest Gas, The Solar Store, Plug-In Tucson, Clean Energy, and others.

A registration fee of \$5 will be charged at the

door (military, 18 years or younger, and University students with ID are free). Look for a free coupon in your Southwest Gas bill.

On Saturday, September 15, related presentations are scheduled in the Graham and Greenlee meeting rooms at TCC:

- 10:30am Crissy Trask, author, *It's Easy Being Green: A Handbook for Earth-Friendly Living*
- 11:30am, Sherry Boschert, author, *Plug-In Hybrids: The Cars that Will Recharge America*
- 12:30pm Terry Tamminen, author, *Lives Per Gallon: The True Cost of Our Oil Addiction*.

- 1:30pm Alternative Fuel Panel discussion
  - 2:45pm Dr. Paul Komer, author, *Renewable Energy Policy*
  - 3:45 Dr. Christopher Simon, author, *Alternative Energy: Political, Economic, and Social Feasibility*
  - 4:45pm, The Solar Energy Panel discussion
- Book signings will follow each author's presentation in the Barnes & Noble booth in the North Exhibit Hall.

The Alternative Energy Expo is sponsored by the Pima Association of Governments. For more information about the Expo and related events, go to [www.tucsonaltenergyexpo.com](http://www.tucsonaltenergyexpo.com).

### Holiday Drive Begins for Mexico Orphanages

Elastek announces the kickoff of its 2007 holiday drive for donations to orphanages

in Mexico. Your contributions and support will be greatly appreciated by the boys and girls living in these two facilities:

**Casa Hogar de Nuestros Pequenos**  
 — Hermanos Cristo Rey, I.A.P.  
*(Boys Orphanage in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico)*  
 Contact Gilda Moctezuma  
 011-52-631-31-61-604

**Address:** Casa Hogar de Nuestros Pequenos/ Hermanos Cristo Rey, I.A.P./Regina Oeste/ Colonia Lomas de Fatima/ Nogales, Sonora, Mexico 84000



*Two happy recipients of donations raised in last year's holiday efforts by Elastek.*

Monetary donations may be made at Wells Fargo (account #2017466145)

**Casa Hogar Para Ninas— Asilo Madre Conchita, I.A.P.** *(Girls Orphanage in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico)*  
 Contact Hermana Maria Acosta Aguilar 011-52-631-31-21-350

**Address:** Casa Hogar Para Ninas, Asilo Madre Conchita, I.A.P./Colonia Buenos Aires #302/ Nogales, Sonora, Mexico 84000  
 Monetary donations may be made to Bank One (account #39087262)

Donations may be made to the orphanages through Elastek as well. Please contact Pat Cortez at 624-6282, [admin@elastek.com](mailto:admin@elastek.com),

or drop off contributions at 3700 S. Palo Verde Rd., Tucson, AZ 85713.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

### Elastek named Wells Fargo COPPER CACTUS Award finalist for Community Service

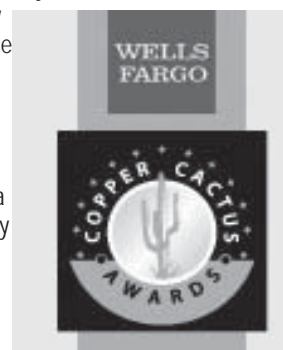
*By Bonnie Lewis*

Elastek has been selected as a finalist for the Wells Fargo Copper Cactus Awards in the category of Community Service. These awards are given annually to honor excellence in small business.

The company was nominated for this award by Alex Cooper, Pima County Community College Small Business Development Center.

The finalists will be honored and winners announced at an Awards Dinner the evening of October 18, 2007 at the Westin La Paloma Resort.

For more information about the Wells Fargo Copper Cactus Awards, go to [www.coppercactusawards.com](http://www.coppercactusawards.com).



## Elastek welcomes three new employees

By Steve Mink

As Elastek's business grows, so does its staff. This summer we welcomed three new employees.

**Robert Holzman** works in the Elastek



warehouse, pulling orders, loading and unloading trucks, and keeping the warehouse in good order.

Robert comes to us with lots of warehouse

experience. He was the warehouse manager

for Banana Boat for six years and warehouse manager for Long's Drug stores as well. We think Robert will keep our coatings moving.



**Isaac Gamboa** has been added to the production staff. Isaac has worked in both manufacturing and construction. He has caught on

quickly and always has a smile. (Sometimes we wonder what he is thinking!)

**Patrick Blevins** has joined us in the Quality Control lab. Patrick has worked quality control prior to joining Elastek, and was also a Munitions Accountability Clerk in the Air Force.



He also received the Air Force Airman's Medal for Heroism in Operation Enduring Freedom.

We welcome all three men to the Elastek team.

## And a few other new additions to our family —

### A new baby girl...



A doting Danny Portilla from our Production staff and his fiancée Monica welcomed new daughter Janelle Delilah Portillo on June 4, 2007. Janelle weighed in at 8 pounds

4 ounces and is just the happiest baby, according to her proud parents. Danny has already nicknamed her his "Princess" and has declared no dating until she's at least 30 years old.

### A new baby boy...

Proud parents Robert and Karen Yrigoyen



welcomed their first child, Adam Christopher Yrigoyen. He arrived on Monday, July 23, 2007 at 3:23pm. Adam weighed in at 8 pounds 7 ounces and measured 20-inches long when

he was born at the University Medical Center in Tucson.

Robert is Elastek's production supervisor.

## Good Job Roofing Contractors!

By Rick Ulrich

We noted in a recent Better Business Bureau report that roofing contractors were the second most inquired about type of business in the Tucson area; almost 700 inquiries in a given month. Remarkably, roofing contractors were not even listed in the top 10 most complained about businesses. It sure sounds like the industry is doing a good job!

The top four businesses with the most complaints in this report were new car dealers, retail furniture stores, swimming pool contractors, and used car dealers.

## Tektalk

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Printed by:  
Spectrum Printing



Mailed by:  
Arizona Jet Mail



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