

NOTA DE PRENSA

NORLITE UTILIZED AT WORLD TRADE CENTER 9/11 MEMORIAL

Barcelona, 8 de September 2011. As the 10 year anniversary of the World Trade Center tragedy approaches the site is busy with preparations for the dedication of the Memorial Plaza on September 11, 2011. The site will consist of several new buildings, including One World Trade Center (formerly the Freedom Tower), a Transportation Hub that will connect train service, 12 subway lines, and the Battery Park City Ferry, and the Memorial Plaza and Museum.

Memorial Plaza The Memorial will include a treed plaza area that sits atop a 70-foot below-grade building. The trees are being planted in a growing mix utilizing a lightweight aggregate manufactured by Tradebe subsidiary, Norlite Corporation located in Cohoes, NY. Norlite manufactures lightweight aggregate by expanding shale in rotary kilns fueled by waste streams that were collected by Tradebe-United Industrial Services. The Norlite expanded shale was blended with natural sand and an organic component offsite and then delivered to the World Trade Center Site for use as a soil medium in the planting beds. A total of 25,000 cubic yards of the specially engineered soils will be used on this project.

In order to grow healthy trees in this context, the trees on the Memorial Plaza will be installed in a suspended paving system. The paving of the plaza will rest on a series of pre-cast concrete tables that “suspend” the Plaza over troughs of planting media that run the full width of the Plaza.

The suspended paving system will allow the structural soil to remain uncompacted and aerated, since the walking pathways are separated from the planting soil below. Many urban trees live in stressful conditions because they are planted where the roots are under pedestrian pathways and vehicle pavements, thereby compacting the soil so severely that the roots cannot grow or gather water and nutrients. The Memorial paving system as well as the Norlite structural soil design will enable the trees to flourish because of a healthy root zone.

Lightweight Aggregate as a Planting Mix

Norlite lightweight aggregate is non-toxic, odorless, 100% inert and will not degrade or decompose. It acts as an insulator in the soil mixture and protects plants from rapid temperature extremes. It retains a high percentage of its weight in absorbed water and waterborne nutrients. It provides permanent aeration and drainage within the root zone making it an excellent material for growing trees in an urban environment.

Sustainable Design

The Memorial Plaza will be one of the most sustainable, green plazas ever built. The Memorial project is pursuing the Gold certification under the LEED for New Construction (LEED-NC) program of the U.S Green Building Council and is designed to satisfy the requirements of New York State Executive Order 111 and the WTC Sustainable Design Guidelines.

The Memorial has been designed to support almost 400 large indigenous trees. These trees have been selected within a 500-mile radius of the World Trade Center site, with

additional trees coming from locations that were affected in the attacks on September 11, 2001. These trees will come from Pennsylvania and the Washington, D.C. area.

Tradebe is honored to be part of this landmark project that memorializes the lives that were lost in the 9/11 attacks. The structural soils used in the Memorial Plaza utilize Norlite as the key component of the soil blend ensuring a healthy root system for the vegetation at the plaza. The vegetation will have severe strain on it with an expected 4 million to 5 million visitors in the first year it is open.

About Tradebe

Tradebe's companies, based in Spain, the United States and the United Kingdom, with their corporate headquarters in Sant Joan Despí, just outside Barcelona, employed more than 1200 people. Tradebe closed 2010 with a turnover of € 215 M in the environmental division, plus € 20 M from Construcciones Caler (50% owned by Tradebe) and € 15 M from its new line of business, Tradebe Port Services (TPS).

*During 2011 Tradebe has begun operations at two new facilities in Spain, **Tradebe Vallbona** (metals recovery plant) and **Tradebe Valdilecha** (environmental centre) and acquired outright ownership of **United Industrial Services (UIS)** in the United States last April. This latest acquisition (SRM) will, together with the recently opened Tradebe plants, give the firm a turnover of some € 350 million in the environmental division and a workforce of around 1800.*

For further information:

Adriana Blasco adriana.blasco@tradebe.com T. (34) 93 205 81 00 www.tradebe.com