



## Company Profile

At age 10, Marcos Cajina used his mother's sewing machine and an old pair of jeans to create a Kung Fu-style backpack and set off to see Nicaragua. He had heard about the country's giant lake with tiny islets and wanted to explore them for himself. Today, as founder and president of Granada Tiles, Cajina uses those same qualities of creativity, daring and passion to craft cement tiles using a 150-year old process originating in France.

Moved by the spectacular historic tile floors found throughout Nicaragua, Cajina started Granada Tiles by first building a hydraulic press in his basement. He spent several months learning how to replicate the tiles by experimenting with a variety of methods and materials. After traveling throughout France to further research the origins of the tiles, he eventually set up production in Nicaragua with his nephew and hired skilled master craftsmen to create the Echo Collection.

Beautiful and environmentally responsible, Granada Tiles have become increasingly popular throughout the United States and are installed in numerous fine homes, hotels, commercial venues and public buildings. "Not only are these handmade cement tiles strong, durable and scratch and stain resistant, they have a vintage beauty that can be very versatile," says Cajina. "The tile's bold patterns and dynamic colors can look just as good in a historic home as in a new loft."

From his home base in Los Angeles, Cajina works directly with his company's many architect and designer clients to help capture their creative vision through decorative tile. A constant innovator, he travels to Nicaragua frequently, continuing to draw from the land's natural beauty and diversity for new styles, designs and methods. To compliment the Echo collection, Cajina has added two new lines to the Granada Tiles family: the Rústico Collection, evoking terracotta and limestone, and the Monostratto Collection, capturing sleek elegance of terrazzo in a versatile new format.

Preserving Nicaragua's natural beauty and bio-diversity is one of Granada Tiles' core values. The company is committed to managing nature's resources responsibly by not contributing to landfills or using any toxins in its manufacturing processes. For more information on Granada Tiles, please call 213-482-8070 or visit the website at [www.granadatiles.com](http://www.granadatiles.com).