



## **CNN's Andy Serwer to speak at University of Florida Greenbuilding Conference in September**

*By EnviroGLAS Products Inc.*

*For Release August 22, 2006*

"Minding Your Business" contributor to CNN's American Morning and FORTUNE Magazine Editor-at-large Andy Serwer will speak at the University of Florida's Rethinking Sustainable Construction Conference on September 21 in Sarasota.

Serwer will join four others on a panel and workshop called "Educating the Next Generation of Green Builders". The panel will exchange ideas and strategies with the audience about how to educate young people to construct buildings that are healthy and environmentally responsible.

"Population and economic growth, as well as natural disasters, mean new construction. Since buildings use a significant amount of energy, water and raw materials and contribute greenhouse gases and waste, the health of the natural environment, human health, and therefore a healthy economy will increasingly hinge on responsible, environmentally sustainable construction," said Serwer.

Yet greenbuilding is not a part of most American educational curricula. Panelists will provide examples of how environmentally sustainable schools themselves can be important educational tools. Tim Whaley of EnviroGLAS Products Inc will demonstrate how a Dallas elementary school's recycled glass terrazzo floor set the stage for a Recycling Day of fun and educational activities. Green school architect Robert Kobet will draw on his extensive experience to explain the collaboration between architects, educators, administrators, parents and students required for successful implementation of green building education.

During the workshop portion, participants will experience K-12 classroom projects and activities developed and implemented by recent UF Building Construction Masters graduate Ana Lavagnino and classroom teacher Melody Hofstetter. These strategies not only introduce young students to the economic and environmental value of green building construction but also reinforce mathematics and science skills required for assessment tests.

The panel will be moderated by UF's Rinker School of Building Construction graduate Stephanie Marcusky. Marcusky has an MBA and just recently passed the Florida General Contractor license test.

The conference website is <http://www.treeo.ufl.edu/rsc06/>.

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