

Product Trend Report



The Wide Blues console from **Devon & Devon** showcases metal strips that wrap around the front and sides of the console. Above the strips, a generously scaled molded top in white ceramic mono-block includes two large oval washbasins. Circular pyramid legs finish the piece. Metal finishes include Polished Nickel, Chrome and Light Gold. Circle No. 237 on Product Card

SaphirKeramik sinks by **Laufen** showcase a new ceramic material for the bathroom. Featuring extremely thin walls, SaphirKeramik is harder and has a greater flexural strength than vitreous or fireclay ceramic, according to the company. The hardness of the material permits shapes that were previously not possible, adds the firm, with closely defined radii and edges featured. Circle No. 245 on Product Card



I see bathrooms and faucets becoming fully digitized and water consumption being reduced significantly through smarter technology," says Purcell. "Long term, I think faucets will increase in intelligence and automatically know the preferred settings."

This trend toward high-tech faucets is translating into an interesting variety of options. Purcell explains that "precise control and customization" along with a "memory function" that will recall users' "individual combination of water temperature and flow" can make a faucet work harder for the consumer

Temperature-sensing technology "senses the water before the user does," according to Lord. He also anticipates more demand for an LED light "built into the top of the faucet [that] changes color from blue to magenta to red, letting consumers know exactly when water has reached the desired temperature." This technology includes a high-temperature limit stop for safety.


Manufacturers also see an increase in the use of touchless technology in faucets in consumers' homes. "The use of electronic faucets in the home is definitely increasing," says Wuellner. "Those with small children are using these products not only as an energy saver, but also to keep their bathrooms cleaner."

Wood agrees: "With Baby Boomers aging into retirement in the near future and the increasing trend toward aging in place, Universal Design will be even more in demand. Touchless faucets would definitely fall into that category."

WATER SENSE

Americans are becoming more aware of the amount of water they use daily. Particularly in parts of the country where water conservation is a key issue, consumers are becoming more interested in green products and manufacturers are responding. According to Purcell, "Eco-friendly products are becoming a big part of every industry, and they will continue to play a large role in the upcoming years. The main trend is purely being more eco-friendly through water savings." Purcell points out that some "environmentally friendly faucets" reduce water consumption up to 30 percent.

"Green is here to stay and has moved into the mainstream," asserts Wood. "For water-related efficiencies, the EPA created the WaterSense label. The WaterSense label has been setting standards in terms of water usage to conserve water and save the consumer money. "WaterSense faucets...will continue to grow in popularity as awareness grows about the importance of water conservation," adds Wood. "This will especially be true as the design continues to improve and provide an indistinguishable experience for the end-user."

Manufacturers have responded to this demand for water conservation with a selection of high-performing faucets that are ecologically sound. "It's not enough for a faucet to offer water savings; it has to deliver on the performance expectations as well," insists Lord. "Consumers are demanding high-quality, efficient products that don't cause them to sacrifice time or experience." 



Inspired by the Art Deco movement, the Charlotte bath collection from **Brizo** now includes the new Cocoa Bronze finish. The rich, dark bronze finish is paired with Polished Nickel accents in the faucet shown. The Charlotte faucet is available with an electronic sensor for hands-free operation, and with an LED light to indicate water temperature. Circle No. 238 on Product Card



Graff's Topaz faucet features a gently curved spout and faceted base mirrored in the facets of the handles. The handle lever is slightly curved, giving the handle the look of an antique inkwell. The Polished Chrome, Olive Bronze and Antique Copper finishes give the faucet a more traditional feel. Circle No. 240 on Product Card



The Pebble Undermount/ Drop-in Sink from **JSG Oceana** is fashioned from glass and is shown in Fawn. All of the company's glass sinks are scratch-, stain- and chemical-resistant, thermal-shock resistant and are made in the U.S. Circle No. 241 on Product Card



The Quentin collection of antique-style faucets from **American Standard** offers detailed craftsmanship combined with modern water savings. The collection includes a full line of coordinated lavatory faucets, bath and shower fixtures, and complete shower systems, including two decorative lavatory faucet spout options. Faucet spouts and bodies are made of high-quality cast brass for strength and durability, and washerless ceramic disc valves ensure drip-free performance. Available finishes include Polished Chrome, Satin Nickel and Oil Rubbed Bronze. Circle No. 244 on Product Card



THG's alliance with Lalique, master sculptors of high-quality crystal, is seen in its latest collection, Perle. Designed by renowned architect Pierre-Yves Rochon, the Perle bath faucet is defined by a necklace of transparent stain crystal pearl droplets engraved along the spout and cross handles. Perle is offered in Chrome, Nickel, Polished Luxbrass and Gold finishes. Circle No. 242 on Product Card



This deco-style pedestal sink from **Strom Plumbing by Sign of the Crab** features a large bowl and high backsplash. It will accommodate an 8" widespread lavatory faucet. Circle No. 243 on Product Card



The Kohani Lavatory Basin from **Native Trails** is made from 16-gauge recycled copper and is square in shape, with gentle curves adding an artistic touch. The vessel sink is available in Antique or Brushed Nickel finish. Circle No. 239 on Product Card