

In order to create a contemporary twist on a traditional Italian restaurant, travertine was employed for the walls and dining room floor of the Nove restaurant in Dallas, TX. Throughout the construction of the restaurant, someone from the design team was present on site, making last-minute decisions on the installation and detailing. **Designer:** 555 International, Chicago, IL; **Stone & Tile Supplier/Installer:** Stone-Tec, Inc., Garland, TX

With already having experience designing the Nove in Las Vegas, NV, Herold explained that the travertine selection was not a difficult decision for the new location. "This was our first choice," she said. "Both [restaurant] owners have great taste and a strong opinion about the overall concept of their restaurants. We help them by showing them options of materials and focusing on how these are best used."

Travertine, selected for its color and rich, traditional feel, adorns the walls and dining room floor of the new 7,000-square-foot location. All vertical walls are comprised of Mexican Latte travertine, filled and honed in a 16- x 32-inch, broken-joint pattern, while Mexican Carmel travertine in a 9-piece, $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch-thick pattern encompasses the floor of the restaurant, according to Rahul Shah of Stone-Tec, Inc. in Garland, TX, which supplied and installed all of the stone for the project. Mexican Carmel travertine slabs were also installed on all stair treads as well as for buffet counters.

To complement the travertine, the restaurant also features 12,000 square feet of mosaic tile, supplied and installed by Stone-Tec, Inc., which is visible throughout vaulted ceilings, restroom walls, bar dies, main dining columns, the patio interior curtain wall, wine room walls and the private dining walls and ceiling.

Shah explained that there were not any major difficulties encountered during the installation process besides the fact that his team faced the constraints of a four-month time-frame for completion. "Overall, it was a very high-speed finish out, with lots of transitions between our materials and other trades, and it was an exciting challenge for Stone-Tec," he said. "I believe that we accomplished everything our client set out for us."

Throughout the construction of the restaurant, Herold and/or someone from her design team was present on site, making last-minute decisions on the installation and detailing. "As in every project, the challenge is in the details," said Herold. "We focus on transitions a lot and decided to cap every edge of the stone in an antiqued bronze glare." ■

