

Suppliers Taking Bath Accessories In a Number of Different Directions

By Rosamaria Mancini

NEW YORK—Fun and fashionable and soft and whimsical are among the design directions bath accessories suppliers are going for at next week's home textiles market.

As usual, suppliers want to be distinct in their offerings, playing with textures and images, and working with different materials such as stoneware, ceramics, porcelain, resin, wood and rubber.

Croskill Home Fashions featured images from Betsy Cameron, known for her photography of children.

The collection consists of simple stoneware forms wrapped with decals of children at the beach. The tissue holder and wastebasket are made of a washed wicker with inset tiles of graphic images.



Above: Pickadilly by Baltic Linen has sequins attached to its resin accessories.



Bacova's Angelina collection is made of ceramic.

Patrick Clemente, designer and assistant product manager for Croskill, said Beach Children is one of many new collections his company will show this market that are based on imagery from Cameron's photos.

Another collection from Croskill was called DOO-WOP. The accessories, which come in bold colors, are made of resin and have a rubber coating. The "graphic dots add fun to this fresh young retro group," Clemente said.

The Bacova Guild made use of soft colors and design elements this market. For example, an inviting blush tone serves as the background for the pretty floral collection called Angelina.

The decal ceramic accessories with a pearlized glaze include all of the basic accessories, such as a lotion pump and a toothbrush holder.

Bacova's Ballerina Butterfly collection doesn't have floral decals, but in-

stead uses the butterfly as its central focus. The accessories in this blue and white collection are made of resin, except for the tissue holder and wastebasket, which are made of wicker.

The Silhouette Garden collection by Saturday Knight is soft and whimsical. The small accessories, such as the toothbrush holder, are made of porcelain that features cutout birds and branches. The larger accessories, such as the tissue holder and wastebasket, are made of wood. There are also coordinating towels and a shower curtain.

Baltic Linen Co., which will show its first full line of accessories this market, will unveil Pickadilly—a four-color textured resin collection that has color-coordinated sequins attached to the individual accessories. The accessories coordinate directly with cotton-woven jacquard towels and a microfiber shower curtain.

Rick Lipton, director of bath accessories for Baltic Linen, said the collection was "fun and fashion for the simple taste of the new free-spirited traditionalist."

Avonhome will also show upbeat products under its Max & Lucy Bath brand name, such as Daisy Crazy and Wing It. The resin collections include all of the standard accessories, such as a lotion pump, tumbler and wastebasket.

But there are also suppliers this market, such as Blonder Home Accents, that are going after customers looking to create strong themes in their baths. The company's East Harbor collection, made of resin, was inspired by the popular New England themes of lighthouses, crabs and lobsters.

The line includes all of the basic accessories, such as a tumbler that has a large crab wrapped around it and a soap dish that features a large lobster. ■



Blonder's East Harbor Collection was inspired by a New England menu.



Below: Croskill's Beach Children collection features images from the photography of Betsy Cameron.

PHOTO: ROBERT MITTRA