



20th February, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

Our cave has had recycled plastic boardwalks almost all the way through it for about 8 years. We had a few reasons for choosing this material in the cave, the most important one was its resistance to humidity. The cave has a constant humidity level all year round of 98%. This means the boardwalks are generally always damp. They used to be made of wood but it was found that the wood deteriorated too quickly under the cave conditions.

The recycled boardwalks at present are showing no signs of rotting or wear and tear and apart from being slightly dirtier (which can be easily washed off) they are in the same condition as they were eight years ago.

The boardwalks also withstand heavy foot traffic. At the cave in an average year we have about 50,000 people go through. These people have to go into the cave, then come back out the same way, so I guess in theory you could say the foot traffic of about 100,000 people pass over them every year.

The cave has low levels of lighting and because of this we need to be able to highlight individual steps. The recycled boardwalks are perfect because they come in white, we can use them on steps instead of paint. We do have areas highlighted in paint but find we have to re-do them at least once a year.

The boardwalks are also splinter free, which is very important to us especially in the kid's tunnel. As the tunnel suggests it's all about crawling on your hands and knees.

Above all else it is important to us that our boardwalks are aesthetically pleasing and do not detract from the cave environment. As with the nature of caves the boardwalks couldn't be laid in a straight forward manner. They had to lay the boardwalks around corners and bends, build platforms and bridges and avoid any damage to cave formations and the cave environment.

We know this was achieved successfully because of the feed back we get from our Cave visitors. A lot of them have visited the cave over 20 years ago and can't believe how fantastic the boardwalks are. We are always getting commended on the look and practicality of them.

In future renovations of the cave we will be using recycled plastic boardwalks.

I would recommend this product to anyone who was after an environmentally friendly boardwalk that is not only durable and hard wearing but aesthetically pleasing.

Yours Sincerely

Candace Williams
Supervisor- Ngilgi Cave



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