

# Tiger Claw<sup>®</sup>

## Hidden Deck Fasteners

### **A vote of confidence from a professional in the field**

As a professional vinyl siding contractor for the past 17 years, Paul Mantoni, owner of Exteriors Plus of Terryville, Connecticut, knows a nice deck when he sees one. He's used to looking at new decks built with traditional nails and screws so when he sees something different, he takes notice.

Such was the case when he was first introduced to Tiger Claw.

"I built a house last year with a huge front porch, made out of cedar. It's 6 x 24 feet — very big. It's beautiful," said Mantoni. "What's so nice about it is that you don't see the fasteners."

In the past, Mantoni's decks on his last two homes were not up to his standards. One had screws, which he felt made the deck look unattractive. They also made an occasional break in the wood, leaving little holes that would collect water and then rot. He had another deck built with nails and, over time, were pulled out. He had to go back around his deck with a hammer and pound in some of those nails again.

"I think the big thing that works the nails out is the weather. When you winter in an area like New England, you get quite a bit of snow and rain. The elements really take a toll on decks. The rain will soak into a deck and then dry it out. The temperature changes can also negatively affect a deck."

When it came time to build his new front porch, he used Tiger Claw — specifically the TC2. It took him and two helpers about three hours to cut the boards and install the hidden deck fasteners.

"By using hidden deck fasteners, you can extend the life of your deck, and I think you're going to see more of them in the future. I personally enjoyed working with the Tiger Claw TC-2's. I'm very glad that I used them on my house because it definitely made my front porch look great."

Mantoni thinks the benefits of using Tiger Claw hidden deck fasteners are numerous.

"On wood decks, it's a great thing. I also think that when you use Trex or any of the composite materials, it's almost mandatory. I go into jobs that already have decks built. You see a composite deck with screws and it looks terrible. The screws mushroom the boards. I think the TC3 for composite materials are really what you're going to see people using in the near future because they just make sense. And I bet these stainless steel Tiger Claws will outlast your deck"

"When I show people my front porch, they're very impressed and think the Tiger Claw hidden deck fasteners are a great thing. And I agree."