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LATEST TECHNOLOGIES ON large sizes & panels

DIAMORPH HOB CERTEC

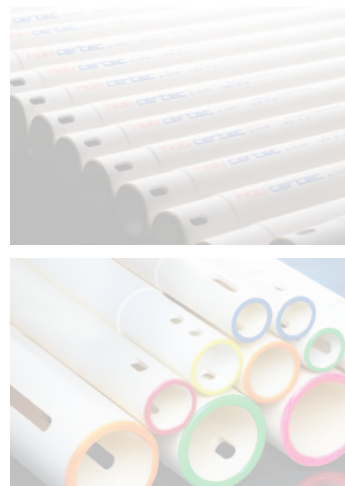
 In recent years, Diamorph Hob CerTec has demonstrated an exceptional ability to meet even the most demanding requirements of ceramic tile manufacturers by developing and continuing to improve the range of super-technical **Hyperroll NG, X and Dense rollers**, solutions that are suitable for any kind of production. Following the rapid growth in large ceramic slab production in recent years, specific operating conditions must be maintained to ensure maximum tile flatness, especially during firing. This results in the need for extremely precise dimensional tolerances and high MOE (modulus of elasticity) values to avoid or minimise potential bending of the rollers and consequently improve first choice production, especially in the case of large slabs up to 180x320 cm in size produced on continuous lines. In this case, flatness is the most important quality parameter, especially for surfaces that will subsequently undergo polishing and where any deformations will be highly visible. Another important technical parameter of the roller is its chemical resistance, to avoid the presence of deposits on the roller (caused by contact with the tile body) which would damage the lower face of the tile. The demand for increasingly efficient and low-cost production processes has

led to longer and wider firing kilns and consequently the need for super-technical rollers with perfect size tolerances, an adequate diameter and a correct distance between the rollers. In the case of high-thickness slabs, the MOE of the rollers must be as high as possible to allow for the transport of particularly heavy materials (up to 50 kg/sqm in the case of 30 mm thicknesses). Hob CerTec's R&D staff, together with the technical and sales team, regularly visit its customers' ceramic factories to fine-tune research according to their specific needs and to further improve the technical characteristics of rollers by developing optimised, tailor-made solutions for the production of slabs with thicknesses from 4 mm to 30 mm.


 Negli ultimi anni Diamorph Hob CerTec ha dimostrato di saper rispondere alle più esigenti richieste dei produttori di piastrelle ceramiche, attraverso lo sviluppo e il continuo miglioramento della gamma di **rulli supertecnici Hyperroll NG, X e Dense**, adatti ad ogni tipo di produzione. La recente e rapida diffusione della produzione di grandi lastre lastre ceramiche ha imposto condizioni operative specifiche, soprattutto nella fase di cottura, per garantire la massima planarità delle piastrelle. Oc-

corrono quindi rulli con tolleranze dimensionali estremamente precise ed elevati valori MOE (modulo di elasticità) per evitare o minimizzare ogni possibile flessione dei rulli e migliorare quindi la produzione di prima scelta, specie quando si tratta di grandi lastre fino a 180x320 cm, prodotte su linee continue. La planarità, in questo caso, rappresenta il parametro qualitativo più importante, specialmente per le superfici da sottoporre a successiva levigatura, dove sarebbero più visibili le eventuali deformazioni. Un altro importante parametro tecnico del rullo è la resistenza chimica, per evitare eventuali depositi sui rulli (generati dal contatto con il supporto della piastrella), che danneggerebbero la parte inferiore delle piastrelle. La richiesta di produzioni più efficienti ed economiche ha comportato l'allungamento e allargamento dei forni di cottura e, di conseguenza, la disponibilità di rulli supertecnici, con tolleranze dimensionali perfette, diametro adeguato e cor-

ta distanza tra i rulli stessi. In caso di lastre ad alto spessore, il MOE dei rulli dovrà essere il più elevato possibile per consentire il trasporto di materiali particolarmente pesanti (per spessori di 30 mm, fino a 50 Kg/mq). Lo staff R&D di Hob CerTec, insieme al team tecnico-commerciale, visita regolarmente gli stabilimenti ceramici dei propri clienti, per affinare la ricerca sulla base delle specifiche esigenze espresse e migliorare costantemente le caratteristiche tecniche dei rulli, studiando soluzioni ottimizzate e tailor made per la produzione di lastre con spessori da 4 a 30 mm.



SURFACES GROUP

 In recent years, the ceramic production process has been revolutionised by technological advances in the field of automation. The new era began with the introduction of digital decoration, after which the development of shaping plants capable of producing extra-large slabs in a continuous process has increasingly driven the ceram-

ic sector towards the adoption of Industry 4.0 principles. In this very dynamic context, the finishing process (rectification, semi-polishing, honing, satin finishing, polishing and surface treatment) is playing an increasingly important role as it allows for the production of materials with increasingly sophisticated aesthetic qualities. These operations have con-

tributed to the development of digitally-decorated tiles, as without these processes large slabs would have remained fairly unappealing semi-finished products incapable of satisfying the needs of an increasingly discerning market. To keep pace with the development of the market, Surfaces Group has brought together several outstanding players in the

field of grinding wheels, abrasives and surface protection products (Surfaces Technological Abrasives, Adi, As Tools and No Coat) under a single brand name. It plays a crucial role in promoting the diffusion of processes and know-how in the field of ceramic finishes and is capable of providing extra-large slab producers with a highly-qualified customised service.