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GIARDINA GROUP AT LIGNA: THE NEW PRODUCTS

*“We will show the focal points of our production, focusing a lot on the new products: I must say that the events of recent years and the necessary renovation have led us to a different management and vision, which has not failed to influence our ability to innovate.” This is how* ***Stefano Tibè****, sales director of Giardina Group, explained the strategy that has led to the definition of the “Guidelines” for the participation in Ligna.*

THE EXCIMERS

A journey of ideas and innovation that has never stopped and that sports Giardina Group as one of the very first pioneers of **excimer technology** with the **“GST Zero Gloss”** mattifying tunnels; a process known to the technological world in which the group has believed for several years.

*“At Ligna we’ll bring, first of all, our* ***excimer technology****, in which we have believed perhaps more than others, first defining a laboratory solution, installed at many of the world’s leading paint manufacturers to develop the most suitable paint materials for this process, a technique that is certainly not new, but that is finally offering the results that many were looking for, to then arrive to an* ***industrial oven*** *that we’ll reveal right in Hannover. We will exhibit two roller machines – one for finishes with grammage up to 5/7 grams and the other that can reach 20, 30 grams per square meter – and the panels painted like so will be mattified with our* ***‘Gst Zero Gloss’ excimer oven*** *and finally reticulated with our very well-known ‘Gst Uv’ technology. We will then demonstrate the result on different finishes for different sectors, wooden flooring and furniture.*

*At Ligna we will present* ***another great world innovation****, a brand-new solution for the mattifying of three-dimensional* ***spray-painted*** *surfaces using excimer UV radiation, an application that will surely meet the interest of a vast public and will be our surprise!”*

The company from Figino Serenza (Como, Italy) has developed a new solution that allows the application of a technological process that is already known and appreciated in various industrial sectors, like in the world of wood and furniture. Thanks to the excimer technology, it is now possible to obtain **“super-matte”** surfaces, a decidedly superior chemical and mechanical resistance, a perfect adhesion of the coating product to the support, and maximum ease in cleaning operations on any type of surface.

In recent years, matte finishes have been having a great success, but the traditional systems to obtain them, that is the use of silica particles, used to make the final result particularly sensitive to scratches, abrasions, and impacts, a fragility directly proportional to the quantity of “mattifying product” in the paint.

The excimer technology solves the long-standing problem: thanks to paints with special characteristics and the use of special lamps that act in a nitrogen-rich environment, the surface structure can be reticulated to obtain a “zero gloss”, resistant surface, without damaging the support.

The **process** takes place in the presence of nitrogen, activated thanks to the energy that the excimer lamp emits with a specific wavelength able to reticulate a very thin layer of the surface (between 100 and 500 nm), a very thin micro surface structure which is on the liquid layer of paint and which will then be reticulated with a traditional UV lamp.

The **advantages** are many and of great interest: an ultra-matte (1.5-5 gloss without using mattifying agents) and “anti-fingerprint” surface, an increase in surface hardness, chemical and abrasion resistance, an extreme “softness” to the touch, a lower chance of yellowing over time, thanks to a lower quantity of photo initiator and the possibility of obtaining surfaces with a regular and uniform three-dimensional effect.

Many are the **fields of application**: from furniture to kitchens, wooden floors, but also plastics, composite materials, metal, glass.

A technology that can be used with different **application methods**: roller coating for flat elements, both on reels and in single pieces; curtain coating on flat elements; spray painting on three-dimensional elements.

Giardina Group offers two technological solutions, an oven for industrial applications and a **laboratory version**.

You can obtain transparent or pigmented **finishes** and the **coating products** that can be used are 100% solids UV and solvent or water-based UV.

THE OTHER NEWS

But the new products are not just about excimer technology: there will also be **“Softy”**, a very soft roller that – installed on the coating machines – will show how it is possible to obtain even with roller machines the results that were until now reserved for spray applications, reducing emissions and with maximum transfer efficiency. All of this with the collaboration of some big names of the coating industry – **Adler Lacke**, **Heidelberg Coatings**, **Ica**, **Sherwin Williams**, **Sirca** – who will be the protagonists of **“Show time”**, the demo calendar that will make these companies the stars of the Giardina Group stand every day.

An event that will be the summary, the manifesto of a very intense season experienced with strong commitment: *“We have been invited to present the results of our research,”* adds Stefano Tibè, “*even at the* ***Polytechnic of Milan****, during an event dedicated to the “finishing of future”; for the latest edition of the* ***Domotex*** *fair we instead demonstrated what we can do today with the excimer UV technology also in terms of wooden flooring, obtaining surfaces with an extremely natural appearance but with a very high resistance, even suitable for walkable surfaces!*

Our goal, which also thanks to Ligna we will certainly be able to reach, is to install a first series of excimer systems at the most important manufacturers of furniture and floors worldwide, which are constantly looking for new solutions and will certainly see an acceleration of their competitiveness.”

*“I would like to add that at the sales level we are investing heavily in emerging markets, where we are working to open a series of* ***“Giardina Group Experience Centre”****, showrooms-laboratories that will allow us to replicate even outside Italy what we can offer in our main offices”,* adds Stefano Tibè. *“The showroom that we will be inaugurating near our headquarters in October will therefore be the first in a series of spaces that will extremely positively mark our presence in various world markets: what we have done so far shows us that these are fundamental steps to transform the relationships between our dealers, customers, and potential customers, bringing them to another level, where they can understand precisely and completely what it means today to choose Giardina Group’s technologies and partnership, how many and which benefits our team can guarantee in all the finishing sectors.”*

For more information

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