**Cerdomus and the environment**

Cerdomus Srl has in its DNA the utmost respect for the Environment, and, therefore, has adopted environmental policies aimed at the maximum protection of its territory.

The main elements from which we start for the manufacture of ceramics have always been our centre of attention, as it pertains to both quality (e.g., search for raw materials, alternative energy and natural resources) and the protection of workers (e.g., ergonomics and cleaning of indoor and outdoor environments, safe machinery designed with manufacturers and customised to suit the Company).

Here is how Cerdomus is organized to limit its footprint on the environment:

1. **Environmental Management System**: the production plant and the shipping warehouse are certified according to the standards **ISO 14001:2015** and **EMAS**, adopting an environmental policy document and an integrated control system aimed at constantly improving environmental performance and setting consistent goals for improvement in terms of both products and the health of our employees.
2. **Waste water outfall and protection of water resources:** Cerdomus Srl has no industrial waste water outfall and fully recovers all the water resulting from production cycles; all waste water coming from the various processing phases is recovered and purified, and is added to well water, thus considerably reducing drainage. In particular, waste water from the lapping department is purified using a new water clarification and microfiltration plant; the clarified water is returned into the cycle and replenished as needed with well water. Some rainwater is also recovered in the process.
3. **Emissions into the atmosphere**: thanks to cutting-edge purification systems, gaseous emissions from the production cycle are purified well below the statutory requirements. During the phase of maximum vegetation of cultivations installed around the plant, analyses performed on emissions coming from our firing and atomization plants are doubled.
4. **Widespread emissions:** this type of emission results from dusts in the environment released by raw materials; in order to eliminate this source of dust, Cerdomus Srl cleans its external areas by mechanical sweepers, while indoors, floors are cleaned and washed with industrial scrubbers.
5. **Waste:** of the waste produced within the plant, around 99% is recycled or recovered. 100% of raw waste from processing is reused in the formulation for our ceramic mixture, helping to reduce the quantity of materials coming from quarries. Fired waste products are fully and properly ground down by specialised companies and reused primarily for the production of ceramic mixtures; likewise, for the sludge from wet cutting and lapping and the dust from cutting on the dry grinding lines, the waste is fully recovered by specialised companies and reused for the formulation of ceramic mixtures.
6. **Energy policy:** a cogeneration group with a power of 2.54 MWe supplies the electricity needs of the entire plant, with any surplus fed into the grid, helping to reduce the need for external energy. Hot exhaust gases from the cogenerator are then reused in the preparation of ceramic mixtures, reducing the use of natural gas by around 35-40%, therefore reducing the production of carbon dioxide in accordance with the Kyoto Protocol.
7. **Packaging:** all packaging for Cerdomus Srl products, from cardboard to plastic and wood, is recyclable in accordance with the information on the boxes and on our website. Furthermore, the majority of the packaging used contains a significant percentage of recovered material.

Cerdomus was awarded **LEED** (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification, which warrants that its products contain more than 25% of recycled materials, thus providing credits for the construction of eco-friendly buildings.

Furthermore, as a ceramic company, Cerdomus is the holder of a **sector-related EPD** (Environmental Product Declaration) associated with Confindustria Ceramica. The EPD certification is a voluntary and certified environmental product declaration which is becoming a tool of particular interest worldwide for the qualification and selection of environmentally valuable products. The EPD underscores the high levels of environmental performance resulting from the continuous investments that Cerdomus has put in place to improve its environment-related corporate goals.

*Castel Bolognese, 01/06/2024*

*The Environment POC*

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