

Sebino Arte: expansion in branches and innovation in products

In spring 2006, Sebino Arte, the Italian office of the PVS Group, opened the doors of its new branch near Grosseto, central Italy to the press and clients. During the inauguration, the Group's new products were also presented, along with the developments that have taken place in this last year.

At the recent inauguration of its new branch near Grosseto, central Italy, Sebino Arte also presented the PVS Group's new line of products for fused glass. During the two-day event, held on 20 and 21 May, representatives of all the companies of the PVS Group were present.

The PVS Group was founded at the beginning of the year 2000, when the three companies of the Group - Sebino Arte, Hornos Industriales Pujol, and Vidriarte - who all manufactured and commercialized similar products - combined their forces to improve their service in Italy and in the rest of the world.

The new branch in Tuscany will further improve the distribution of the Group's products in that region and area of Italy, and will also expand the Italian sales network.

Vetzeria Chiti, a small glassworks founded in 1984, recently taken over by Sebino, will also be located at the new branch, where it will carry

Figure 1



Figure 2



out its unique production of artistic glass panels for doors, Tiffany lamps, mirrors, table sets and ornaments in fused glass.

SEBINO ARTE

Sebino Arte, originally founded in the 50s, based at Villongo, near Bergamo, northern Italy, is the Italian partner of the Group, producing the moulds for glass items, ceramic fibers, and accessories and equipment for glass working.

Now, it is specialized in tools and equipment for fused glass, but also manufactures luxury goods such as mosaics, lamps and ornaments, as well as large artistic glass panels, both in Tiffany style and in fused glass.

The wide range of moulds manufactured by Sebino have a working life that exceeds 1,000 firings as they are manufactured at 1,300° with special material, and with models that are constantly updated as per the most recent trends of the market.

The company also manufactures the supports for the objects that can be made using its moulds, such as, in the case of a mould for a half-conical wall lamp, the support with two lights, as per CE norms, and the design so as to have the correct template, are also supplied.

Sebino Arte also produces the metal parts and small tools such as a pantograph that enables to cut any shape thanks to a moveable arm cutting heads that rotate 360°.

The most recent product, deriving from the acquisition of Vetreria Chiti, includes a range

Figure 3



Figure 4



Figs. 1 and 4 - Matteo Mazza of Sebino Arte opens the two-day event
 Fig. 2 - Santiago Hernandez of Vidriarte explains the features of Flosing glass
 Fig. 3 - Joaquin Pujol presents the advantages of their kilns

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of glass panels in standard sizes of 175 x 62 centimetres, that can also be "made-to-measure" and shipped all over Italy, even as single items.

These glass panels are aimed at those small glassworks that do have the possibility or do not want to produce these items because they have only small kilns and want to reduce investments.

HORNOS INDUSTRIALES PUJOL

Pujol, based near Barcelona, Spain, manufacturer of more than 7,000 kilns which are delivered all over the world, and ranging over different fields such as ceramic, metallurgy, chemical and glass industry, is the company of the Group specialized in kilns for fused glass and for glass bending.

The company began manufacturing kilns in 1911, and, together with Vidriarte, is a specialist in large sheets of float glass. Pujol has kilns both for fused glass applications as well as for small items using, for example, moulds manufactured by Sebino.

The V2 series of kilns for fused glass manufactured by Pujol is dedicated to the smaller glassworks. Featuring low consumption of electrical energy, all models of the V2 are equipped with safety features and are in accordance with CE norms.

The *Slmp/Sink* series is dedicated to thermoforming for transparent washbasins. Thanks to an advanced system of independent regulation in different areas of the kiln, they can operate even without moulds, obtaining high quality items, without defects, and are compact in shape.

The glass sheets are first heated on both sides at the same time and, once the glass has reached a high temperature, but has not changed condition, the area of the basin is heated to 1,000°, enabling to realize the desired shape without using thermic shock treatment.

Pujol's patented *Multiblock* system enables to realize, with the same kiln, one-piece transparent, round or square washbasins, with flower and fusing, with diameters of between 25 and 40 centimetres.

SafeGlass film

Since the glass sector still does not have a normative regarding safety measures for glass washbasins, Pujol has anticipated the situation with the creation of *SafeGlass* film.



SafeGlass enables to obtain high-level safety of glass washbasins.

Using a normal spray gun, a layer of mono-component resin is applied directly onto the glass surface. Numerous impact tests carried have demonstrated that glass treated in this way increases its resistance by 120 times, while remaining economic and lightweight.

Moreover, the applied film holds fragments together so that, in the case of breakage, the object does not break up, but has behaviour similar to that of laminated auto glass, without the cost and without the weight. This technique has been tested and proved as advantageous also for artistic glass panels.

VIDRIARTE

Vidriarte, the second partner of the Group to be based in Spain, was set up in 1980 and, in 1994, started producing flosing glass, at present available in standard sheets of 160 x 60 centimetres, with thicknesses of two millimetres.

At the inauguration, Vidriarte presented its complete line with its many innovations, such as *Flosing Plaqué*, which, according to Santiago Hernandez, Managing Director of the Spanish company, "is the first float glass with these features".

This new product is the result of over two years of research and development resulting in bright, intense colours, with the highest quality. *Flosing Plaqué* can be partially sandblasted to create any kind of design or decoration.

Flosing Crisol includes a new range of glass in 24 colours, divided into mono- and bicolore, while *Flosing Perlato* is a range with two colours that combines the elegance of white with a touch of colour to enhance the same elegance.

Figure 5

Figs. 5 and 6 -
Demonstrations of working

Figure 6



Flosing Granito was presented with five new colours, and, last but not least, another series, called *Precious Metals*, that includes gold and platinum, is produced in two types of glass sheets: 30 x 27 centimetres and 80 x 60 centimetres, both with a thickness of two millimetres.

It is important to note that all these new products can be combined together as well as with products of the existing *Flosing* range.

Another important item from Vidriarte is glass paste, introduced for the first time at the inauguration. Glass paste can be combined with all other products to greatly increase the range of effects that can be obtained.

A further product range presented in Tuscany were the glass sheets that have the same effect on both sides, that can be cut into small pieces and, therefore, are ideal for applications such as costume jewellery.

Vidriarte also presented another glass type gives the idea of transparency and depth, exploiting creativity to the full, and is produced in 15 different colours. ■



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