

MAPPI: developments to client- and environ



During the recent edition of glasstec, Mappi International was present to give the glass sector an idea how it is working to meet the rigid requests of its clients and the European community. In this article, the company speaks about its new products: Fox SunPower, Heat Soak Test and plants for laminating glass.

Mappi International (MAPPI), well-known for its glass tempering plants, presents its new product - *FOX SUNPOWER* - which was on show at the 2008 edition of the *glasstec* trade fair. *FOX SUNPOWER* was designed to temper special glass for solar panels, and was recently installed in Germany for the tempering of photovoltaic panels. This plant includes all the advanced technology of Mappi, enabling to obtain important production and quality results thanks to a wider range of innovative solutions which respond to and satisfy the present market demands: quality of finished products, savings and safety.

GHBS GLAVERBEL HEAT BALANCE SYSTEM

All glassworks nowadays look for convection furnaces which guarantee excellent product quality. Mappi's plants are equipped with the *GHBS Glaverbel Heat Balance System* convection system guaranteeing the highest quality standards thanks to precise and localized heating and which enables therefore to reach the best results on reflective and

in response mental needs



low-E glass of each and every type up to an emissivity level of 0.02, other than increasing production up to 30 per cent.

Quality is also in correspondence to the new European Community norms and for this reason Mappi has developed *TOUCH*TM a new integrated system for the automatic control of production and process to enable finished products to be CE Certified, with the automatic registration of each single productive cycle.

This exclusive system enables the immediate control of all process parameters and printing of the report for CE Certification in real time.

EASE OF USE AND LOW ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Thanks to the considerable success obtained in the most important worldwide markets, Mappi is recognized as a manufacturer of machinery with extreme ease of use and minimum environmental impact. In fact, Mappi has always paid great attention to energy savings and for this reason can declare that its plants are the most competitive on today's market. This has been made possible thanks to the insulation of the heating chamber, which maintains its total and complete capacity, using ventilators with direct current motors able to optimize operations as far as the management of the air for tempering is concerned. Moreover, these furnaces consume less energy thanks to the new computerized controls of the small heating elements. In fact, when there is no glass in the controlled areas, heating of these elements is immediately excluded. Mappi concentrates greatly on reducing consumption, an ever more important aspect in today's world.

HEAT SOAK TEST

In addition to its well-known range of products, Mappi also manufactures glass laminating plants. The request for safety products is in continuous growth worldwide and for this reason Mappi has decided to introduce a new series

of furnaces dedicated to laminating in different sizes and performances, suitable for both small and large-sized industries. And, therefore, with laminating plants and tempering furnaces, Mappi can give its clients a complete service. Also part of the product range of Mappi are its Heat Soak Test plants, for the certification of hardness of the glass as per the safety norms in force, with regards to spontaneous breakage caused by intrusion of nickel sulphide in the glass during the production phases of the same glass sheets. In this way, the request for high quality is satisfied, request coming, above all, from Europe, but which all countries will have to correspond to shortly.

COMMERCIAL NETWORK

Mappi works with a commercial network which covers the entire territory of Italy, most of the European Union, as well as North and South America. Presence of Mappi in Europe is strong, above all with regards to Spain, where, in the last year, five new convection tempering plants have been installed. Results from the United States are also good, despite the critical economical situation and the bad Euro/Dollar exchange rate. In this area, Mappi has already supplied about 30 plants, equal to 15 per cent of the US market. Considering the success obtained up to now, and development possibilities offered by this area, Mappi has decided to open two branches: one in Chicago and the other in Montreal, in Canada, to further expand its presence in North and Central America and to offer its clients the best possible service.

Mappi also has good coverage of the Mexican market, an expanding area that it has been following carefully for the past two or three years. In fact, Mappi already has a certain number of commercial contacts and has recently installed a large convection tempering furnace there. ■



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