**Cosentino celebrates Venice Architecture Biennale success**

* **The ultra-compact surface Dekton® by Cosentino was the material selected by the architect Daniel Libeskind for his sculpture at the Venice Pavilion**

**Venice, 25th November 2014** – Cosentino Group, global leader in the production and distribution of innovative surfaces for the world of architecture and design, had participated for the very first time at the Venice Architecture Biennale as a technical sponsor by presenting the outdoor sculpture that Daniel Libeskind had chosen to realize with the ultra-compact surface Dekton® by Cosentino thanks to its superior technical characteristics such as: high mechanical resistance, high scratch and high UV resistance, reduced water absorption, very good color stability, resistance to freezing and thawing.

*The sculpture Sonnets in Babylon,* created on purpose by the architect for the Venice Pavilion and Cosentino Group, with its 5.5 meters high of a skewed axis form and finished in the ultracompact surfacing material Dekton, was available for the Biennale public at *Giardini della Biennale di Venezia*. This important exhibition was attended by 228.000 visitors in 6 months, including students and young people (45% of the total).

The geometry of the form relates to the development of the axis as a fundamental to architectural drawing. The finish of this spectacular sculptural “X” in Dekton by Cosentino has been designed as a ventilated façade that shrouds the entire work, using “Rediwa CAT 1” system from Wandegar company. 65m2 of paneling and 15m2 of flooring in more than 50 pieces of various sizes, the largest 2.55m x 1.40m, of the ultra-compact surface with a thickness of 12mm. Paneling and flooring are presented in the same color, Keranium, which has an industrial aesthetic.

*“Our participation to Venice Architecture Biennale has been an extraordinary experience:  collaborating with one of the most prestigious Institution in the world made us really proud”* –, asserts Santiago Alfonso, Cosentino Group’s Marketing and Communications Director. *“Sonnets in Babylon strengthened our relationship with Daniel Libeskind, relation that continues year after year,  reaching always higher goals, such as the opportunity to join in a cutting edge environment for research and new art trends’ promotion, which is Venice Biennale”.*

At the following link <http://youtu.be/6wNNN0BKbns> an interesting interview to Daniel Libeskind realized by [Venice Municipality](http://www.egov.comune.venezia.it/) and directed by Daniela Zennaro.

**About Dekton**

The Dekton® by Cosentino ultra-compact surface is a new and innovative category of surfaces created with the objective of becoming a global leader in the world of architecture and design both for indoor and outdoor spaces. It is the result of an investment of 128 million euros and 22,000 hours of research and development, making it the perfect partner for designers and architects throughout the world.

Dekton® is a sophisticated mixture of the raw materials that is used to manufacture glass, porcelain materials and quartz surfaces. The Dekton® surface can recreate any type of material with a high level of quality. It is manufactures in large format (320 cm x 144 cm) and thin thicknesses (0.8 cm, 1.2 cm and 2 cm) and it as superior technical characteristics:

* + - * High mechanical resistance
      * Good resistance to fire and heat
      * High scratch resistance
      * High UV rays resistance
      * High hydrolysis resistance
      * Reduced water absorption
      * Very good colour stability
      * Very good dimensional stability
      * High abrasion resistance
      * High stain resistance
      * Resistance to freezing and thawing.

These superior technical characteristics are achieved thanks to the exclusive TSP technology (Technology of Sintered Particles), developed by the R&D of Cosentino Group. PST technology is an ultra-compaction process which makes Dekton® a totally revolutionary low-maintenance, long-lasting product with a multitude of applications.

**About Cosentino Group**

Cosentino Group is a global, family-owned company that produces and distributes high value innovative surfaces for architecture and design. As a leading company, Cosentino imagines and anticipates together with its customers and partners design solutions that offer value and inspiration to people’ lives. This goal is made possible by pioneering brands that are leaders in their respective segments such as Silestone®, Dekton®, Eco by Cosentino® and Sensa by Cosentino®. Technologically advanced surfaces which allow create unique designs for the home and public spaces.

The group bases its development on international expansion, an innovative research and development program, respect for the environment and sustainability, and its ongoing corporate commitment to society and the local communities where it operates, education, equality and health & safety.

Cosentino Group currently distributes its products and brands in more than 80 countries, and directly manages from its headquarters in Almeria (Spain) its own facilities in more than 20 of them. 90% of Cosentino Group’s turnover comes from international markets.

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