**Daniel Libeskind chooses the ultra-compact surface Dekton® by Cosentino for the Venice Architecture Biennale**

* **The architect has selected Cosentino’s material for his exterior sculpture *Sonnets in Babylon* at the Venice Pavilion.**

**Venice, 6thth June 2014** –Cosentino Group, global leader in the production and distribution of innovative surfaces for the world of architecture and design, will be present for the first time ever at the Venice Architecture Biennale as a technical sponsor of the Venice Pavilion, represented by the architect Daniel Libeskind.

Daniel Libeskind has selected the ultra-compact surface Dekton® by Cosentino for his outdoors sculpture that forms part of *Sonnets in Babylon,* presented by the renowned architect for the Venice Pavilion.

As visitors approach the Pavilion, situated in the *Giardini della Biennale di Venezia*, they will first encounter a 5.5 meter high sculpture of a skewed axis form finished in the ultracompact surfacing material Dekton by Cosentino. The geometry of the form relates to the development of the axis as a fundamental to architectural drawing. Libeskind has explored this technical mark in all his major drawing works beginning with *Micromegas* continuing with *Chamberworks*, and now in *Sonnets in Babylon*. This sculptural “X” will serve as a starting point—a virtual beginning of a line that runs through the Sonnets and anchors their exploding and collapsing worlds.

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 colour, Keranium, which has an industrial aesthetic.

Francisco Martinez-Cosentino, President of Cosentino Group highlighted: "It is a great honour for Cosentino Group to be present at the Venice Architecture Biennale as sponsors of the Venice Pavilion. The spectacular sculpture created by Daniel Libeskind with Dekton® surface is a fantastic example of our ongoing commitment to architecture at the highest level."

In addition, the global company is present at the Architecture Biennale not only with the architect Daniel Libeskind at the Venice Pavilion, but also in the heart of the city with an exhibition at the Palazzo Bembo, a fifteenth century palace facing the Grand Canal.

In collaboration with the studio Opta Architects, Cosentino is present at the Palazzo Bembo in the THREETIMESTHREE project on display in the Palazzo with pieces of various sizes of 8mm thick Dekton® in Kadum colour, transmitting the innovative nature of both the project and the Architecture Biennale. The process of architectural research seems to materialize in an innovative surface that is exposed to the view and touch of visitors.

**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.

[www.cosentinogroup.net](http://www.cosentinogroup.net)

**About Dekton® by Cosentino**

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 PST technology (Particle Sintering Technology), 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.

Prestigious architect and designer Daniel Libeskind has created in 2014 “Beyond The Wall”, a spectacular sculpture which becomes the first architectural and design milestone created with Dekton® by Cosentino. This singular polycentric spiral shows how Dekton® surface can successfully be applied to a contemporary and complex facade.

Since 2011, Cosentino Group is sponsor and official provider of worktops at “The 50 Best Restaurants of the World”. 2014 with its Dekton® brand sponsoring the “One To Watch” award.

Since 2013 Dekton® is the personal sponsor of the four times motorcycle world champion Jorge Lorenzo. The Dekton® image can be seen on the Spanish rider's official cap.

[www.dekton.com](http://www.dekton.com)

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