

## Giardina Group Presented New Products

# The Excimers

"We will show the focal points of our production, focusing a lot on the new products: I must say that the events of recent years and the necessary renovation have led us to a different management and vision, which has not failed to influence our ability to innovate." This is how Stefano Tibè, sales director of Giardina Group, explained the strategy that has led to the definition of the "Guidelines" for the participation in LIGNA.



Giardina Group is one of the very first pioneers of excimer technology with the "GST Zero Gloss" mattifying tunnels; a process known to the technological world in which the group has believed for several years.

At LIGNA Giardina Group exhibited two roller machines - one for finishes with grammage up to 5/7 grams and the other that can reach 20, 30 grams per square meter - and the panels painted like so will be mattified with the 'Gst Zero Gloss' excimer oven and finally reticulated with the very well-known 'Gst Uv' technology. Giardina then demonstrated the result on different finishes for different sectors, wooden flooring and furniture.

Giardina presented another great world innovation, a brand-new solution for the mattifying of three-dimensional spray-painted surfaces using excimer UV radiation.

The company from Figino Serenza (Como, Italy) has developed a new solution that allows the application of a technological process that is already known and appreciated in various industrial sectors, like in the world of wood and furniture. Thanks to the excimer technology, it is now pos-

sible to obtain "super-matte" surfaces, a decidedly superior chemical and mechanical resistance, a perfect adhesion of the coating product to the support, and maximum ease in cleaning operations on any type of surface.

In recent years, matte finishes have been having a great success, but the traditional systems to obtain them, that is the use of silica particles, used to make the final result particularly sensitive to scratches, abrasions, and impacts, a fragility directly proportional to the quantity of "mattifying product" in the paint.

The excimer technology solves the long-standing problem: thanks to paints with special characteristics and the use of special lamps that act in a nitrogen-rich environment, the surface structure can be reticulated to obtain a "zero gloss", resistant surface, without damaging the support.

The process takes place in the presence of nitrogen, activated thanks to the energy that the excimer lamp emits with a specific wavelength able to reticulate a very thin layer of the surface (between 100 and 500 nm), a very thin micro surface structure which is on the liquid layer of paint

and which will then be reticulated with a traditional UV lamp.

The advantages are many and of great interest: an ultra-matte (1.5-5 gloss without using mattifying agents) and "anti-fingerprint" surface, an increase in surface hardness, chemical and abrasion resistance, an extreme "softness" to the touch, a lower chance of yellowing over time, thanks to a lower quantity of photo initiator and the possibility of obtaining surfaces with a regular and uniform three-dimensional effect.

Many are the fields of application: from furniture to kitchens, wooden floors, but also plastics, composite materials, metal, glass.

A technology that can be used with different application methods: roller coating for flat elements, both on reels and in single pieces; curtain coating on flat elements; spray painting on three-dimensional elements. Giardina Group offers two technological solutions, an oven for industrial applications and a laboratory version. You can obtain transparent or pigmented finishes and the coating products that can be used are 100% solids UV and solvent or water-based UV.