

Glass&Co.



WORKING TOGETHER TO STUDY AND CREATE SPECIFIC COATINGS FOR GLASS SURFACES

Over the next two years, the Polytechnic University of Turin, the University of Delft and Cromology Italia will work together on a project named Glass&Co. to create innovative coatings, transparent films able to improve the mechanical performance of glass, making it resistant to be used as a supporting, load-bearing wall. The project was one of the 14 chosen during the ten-

der “Put your research idea online”, promoted by the Polytechnic University of Turin and co-funded by the Compagnia di San Paolo. Research was focused on the creation of two types of polymeric coatings hardened by UV rays, with excellent adhesion properties, and with thicknesses that depend on their use. The first work will be carried out on hydrophobic coating, used to protect glass from water, which,

reacting with silicon dioxide, would make the material much more fragile. On the contrary, the covering film would considerably improve the tensile strength.

The second, and more challenging coating aims at creating a film that can act as a buffer to redistribute stress concentrations due to contact pressure on the edges. In this way, the glass could be used as a basic element for impor-

tant constructions such as houses, buildings and even bridges.

The work team involves two departments of the Polytechnic University of Turin: Structural, Construction and Geotechnical Engineering, as well as that of Applied Science and Technology, headed by Dott. Mauro Corrado and Prof. Roberta Bongiovanini, which will be working alongside the R&D team of Cromology Italia and, last

CROMOLOGY ITALIA

Cromology Italia is a leader in Italy in the production and commercialization of construction paints. The company has 500 employees, two high-tech production units covering 80,000 square metres, a logistics hub and three regional warehouses taking up 45,000 square metres. The company also works with a network of sales agents – Colori di Tollens Bravo – which has 14 direct sales points.

Cromology Italia has a competitive multi-channel strategy, and to a product range of important brands: MaxMeyer, Duco, Baldini Vernici, Tollens, Settef, Viero, Viero Paints, Mistercolor and Lo Specialista di Mistercolor – as well as a complete and diversified product million turnover, with a leading position in the most important markets of Southern Europe. Thanks to 10 research labs, 13 production units and nine logistics platforms Cromology's brands are sold in more than 50 countries around the world, present directly in nine countries.

Researchers from the Polytechnic University of Turin will work together with the University of Delft and Cromology Italia on the creation of specific coatings for glass surfaces, improving their mechanical performance.

“Once again the Research and Development of Cromology Italia is in the forefront in the development of new materials,” comments Massimiliano Bianchi, Managing Director and CEO of Cromology Italia. “The fact that a group of researchers of the Polytechnic University of Turin have asked us to participate in this

stimulating project fills us with pride. We are absolutely enthusiastic about collaborating with such prestigious

academic partners and will provide them with all our know-how in the creation of polymeric coatings.”

but not least, two researchers from the department of Architectural Technology and Engineering of the University of Delft.

“This project is part of an international current research programme, which is aimed at improving the reliability of glass a structural material, so as to encourage a greater use compared to its present niche position,” says Dott. Corrado. “It is a highly inter-disciplinary project and to ensure the best results we need to collaborate closely with the other members of the project. I would like to thank Cromology Italia very much for taking part in this project with enthusiasm and I am confident that this collaboration will bring significant results.”

