

MAPPI International: partner with POLFLAM, leader in the production of fire-resistant glass



Mappi is fully aware that a modern tempering furnace is much more than a piece of machinery, it is the heart of the glass factory. Around this concept, the Italian company has designed and built the new generations of its furnaces and the clearest and most obvious turning point was the launch of the

ATS 4.0, which, right from its name, showed a clear intention – 4.0, in fact, means modern, innovative, interconnected.

And under the banner of 4.0, the partnership with Siemens, the multinational company that is among the pioneers of Industry 4.0, has become ever stronger. All of Mappi's new furnaces

have earned the Powered by Siemens designation, and are ready to integrate with a potentially infinite number of software applications compatible with Siemens' MindSphere.

Mappi International has recently developed improvements to the tempering process for fire resistant glass. While typical

tempered glass has a surface tension of >69 MPa (10,000 PSI), many fire resistant glass applications require surface tension of 160 MPa or higher. The SUPERTEMPER™ is an addition to the tempering furnace that, when coupled with Mappi ATS 4.0 or Fox furnaces, achieves these higher values.

POLFLAM will be the first company in Europe to use a Mappi SUPERTEMPER system, installing it in their ATS 4.0 2,500x5,000 furnaces. In this article, Mappi speaks with POLFLAM about the company and the reasons behind its choice of a Mappi furnace.

POLFLAM, founded in 1992 and based in Runów, Poland, offers state-of-the-art fire-resistant glass products for a variety of applications in all European markets. POLFLAM's leadership in the fire-resistant glass industry is the result of specialized expertise and large production capacity. Since 2005, the company has grown exponentially, leading to its acquisition in 2019 by Belgian investment group Baltisse. POLFLAM is investing eagerly in infrastructure and technology, to consolidate its dominance in the Central European market, as well as to accelerate its expansion into Western-Europe and other continents. Most important is the expansion of its production capabilities with the construction of a new factory in Tarczyn, Poland. This 20,000 square metre high-capacity facility will triple total production. It is expected to be operational soon and trial production will begin by the end of 2021. POLFLAM chose SUPERTEMPER™ for the ATS 4.0 furnace at the Tarczyn plant.

SPEAKING TO POLFLAM

"Our company is always looking for solutions that can guarantee new standards of excellence, which

is why we were so impressed by Mappi's SUPERTEMPER™," says Jean-Louis Canelle, Chief Technical Officer of POLFLAM. "We were intrigued by the ability to be able to produce certified fire resistant glass from a Mappi ATS 4.0 standard tempering furnace, which is the industry choice for consistent quality, ease of use and energy efficiency."

Mappi: How did your choice process go?

POLFLAM: "We were already familiar with Mappi International, because we currently use one of their tempering furnaces at our Runów facility. The reliability and performance of this Italian company is proven, so when we heard about the additional SUPERTEMPER™ technology, we naturally asked for more details. When the POLFLAM team met with Mappi engineers, we quickly realized that this technology was the solution to achieving the higher surface stress of the glass through tempering that we were looking for."

Mappi: How do you think Supertemper can fit into Polflam's overall production model?

POLFLAM: "Since the tempering furnace is a critical component in our glassworks' production line, having a state-of-the-art furnace like the ATS 4.0 will keep POLFLAM at the forefront of innovative glass production. SUPERTEMPER™ technology enhances these prospects. It will give us a whole new production standard, making us even more confident in our future successes."



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