Iris Ceramica Group is ahead of the field with its high-performing materials, and its Active Surfaces™ help ceramics to break a new record.

Fiorano Modenese, July 23 2021. **Iris Ceramica Group's Active Surfaces have achieved yet another major result: they are able to destroy over 99% of the bacteria they come into contact with in just 30 minutes in the dark, demonstrating their powerful antibacterial power even in the absence of light**.

Tests directly compared the Active Surfaces materials with a non-treated ceramic sample, to prove how this property is effective in just a very short time.

The ISO 22196 standard protocol requires that both surfaces be placed in contact with a known quantity of bacteria, in this specific case the *Escherichia Coli* strain, and then be left in the dark for 24 hours.

However, it is important to underline how fundamental it is for antibacterial ceramic surfaces to demonstrate their efficacy in much less than 24 hours, particularly in certain environments such as hospitals, care homes, schools and nurseries, where hygiene is a priority.

For this reason, the Iris Ceramica Group has aimed to reduce the testing times to see how Active Surfaces are able to really protect people in the places they are used. **The studies conducted began with increasingly shorter intervals, from 8 to 4 and then to 2 hours, finally reaching 30 minutes. These data offer scientific proof of the continuous research into excellence with Active Surfaces, which, in 30 minutes in the dark, have demonstrated antibacterial efficacy of over 99%.**

This clear and unambiguous result bears witness to the special features of **Active Surfaces**. A material that, since 2009, when it was first produced, has been the focus of continuous studies and research, expressing all the potential of technical ceramics and making them a functional material with exclusive mechanical, electrical, thermal and biochemical properties, the perfect blend of earth, fire and water.

With **Active Surfaces**, the Iris Ceramica Group continues to take ceramics to high-end levels, aiming to make the surfaces increasingly innovative, playing not just a technical but also a social role: to improve living spaces, meeting their needs with solutions that respect the environment and nature.

Iris Ceramica Group S.p.A.
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The remarkable properties of **Active Surfaces** were obtained using an innovative industrial process that combines titanium dioxide with silver, a technology patented by the Iris Ceramica Group after a long and scrupulous scientific research project in partnership with the Department of Chemistry at the University of Milan.

Active Surfaces ceramics perform their tasks with the utmost precision, and today are often an outstanding solution for all the challenges of contemporary living which cannot be managed using conventional materials. These eco-active ceramic materials have antibacterial, antiviral (including anti-Covid19), anti-pollution, anti-odour and self-cleaning properties, with quality tested according to international ISO standards. These are *far-sighted materials* that, supported by scientific data, show how technical ceramics are one of today's most noble, precious and efficient materials.

www.active-surfaces.com

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