



Patented Zeus[®] ventilation system lined throughout with Basotect[®] G

Case Study

Peace and Quiet in Italy's Kitchens

Nuove Dimensioni Ambientali, S.p.A. (N.D.A.), the Italian supplier of solutions for acoustic insulation, uses Basotect[®] to absorb sound and thermally insulate its Zeus[®] ventilation system. Zeus[®] is designed to provide thermal insulation and sound absorption in building air vents and the inside is lined throughout with light gray Basotect[®] G. BASF's open-cell melamine resin foam is used in a thickness of 20 mm for this application. The foam ensures that the 54 dB rated Zeus[®] ventilation system meets the strict noise control requirements that apply to residential buildings in Italy. The minimum requirement of 40 dB is established in the DPCM (Decreto del Presidente del Consiglio dei Ministri) dated 5 December 1997.

The ventilation system measures 45 cm x 34 cm x 18 cm and has a 15 cm wide air inlet. Zeus[®] is easy to integrate into the façade and is compatible with all standard mortars and roughcasts. This type of ventilation system to EN 14366 is specified for Italian kitchens for safety reasons, as gas is the primary cooking fuel. As well as sound absorption, such ventilating systems also place a lot of emphasis on thermal insulation, as the ventilation systems create thermal bridges in the wall.

"As well as its very good sound absorbing and thermal properties we were particularly impressed by how easy Basotect[®] is to process. The foam fits the contours of the ventilating system precisely, and we can cut it to size and glue it in place ourselves", was how Marco Facchini, N.D.A.'s chief executive, explained the company's decision. Basotect[®] is very flexible and can easily be adapted to various shapes. The foam is also free of mineral fibers. Zeus[®] is a registered brand name of N.D.A. and the first ventilating system in Europe to carry the CE mark (in group 'construction products', DIR 89 /106 /CEE) which is recognized throughout Europe and to be patented accordingly.

This is the first instance of BASF's special foam Basotect[®] being used in ventilating systems of this type. Other markets in addition to Italy would be Mediterranean countries with similar noise control requirements, such as Greece and Spain.

