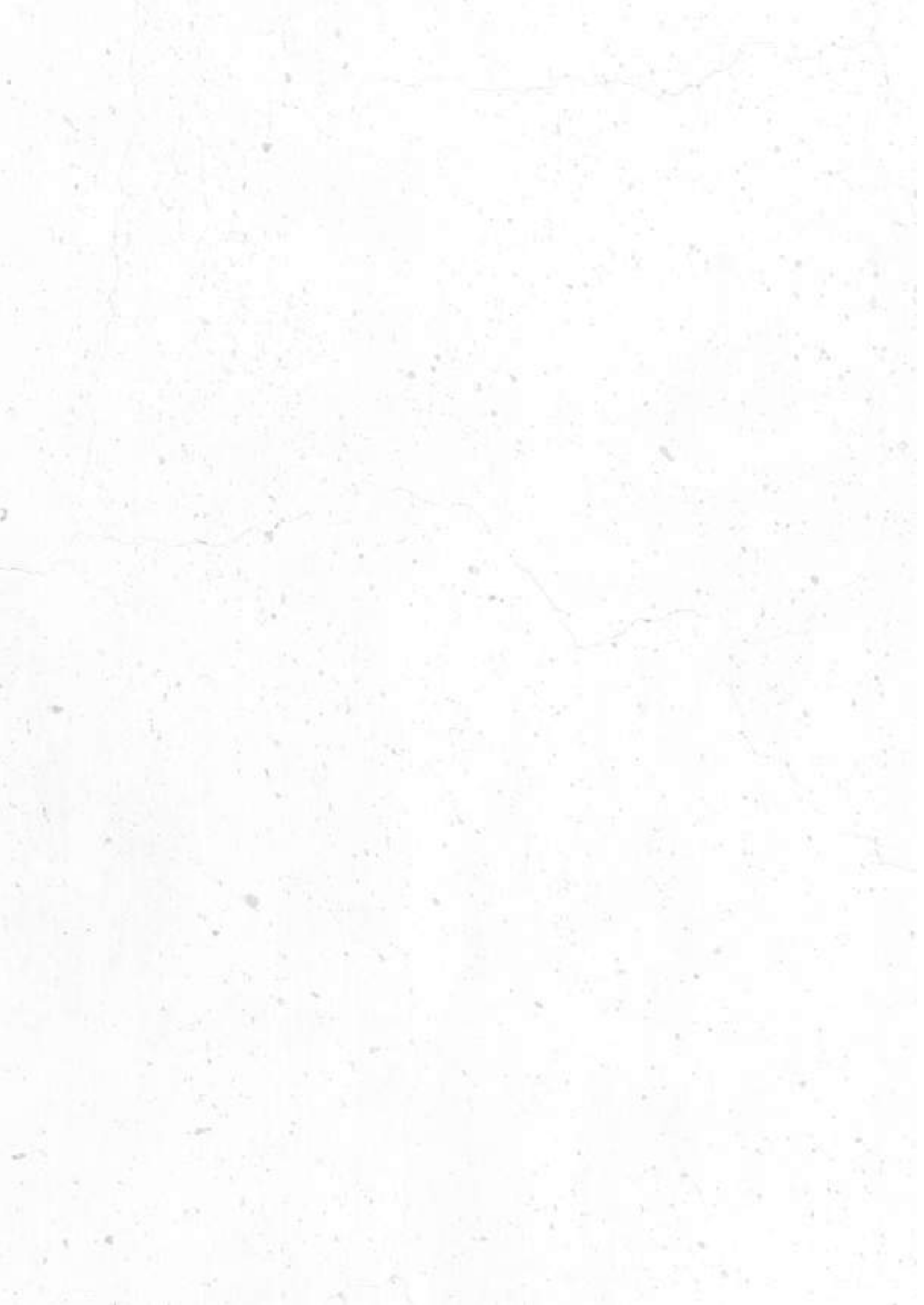


COMPANY PROFILE

METCO
The colours **factory**



WHO WE ARE

For over thirty years, **Metco has been synonymous with innovation and reliability in ceramic coloring.** We specialize in high-penetration digital coloring for porcelain stoneware—a technology that goes beyond the surface to reach the core of the tile, ensuring long-lasting beauty, strength, and durability.

Our core business is the development and production of high-performance color solutions, designed to deliver color stability, chemical and mechanical resistance, even under heavy use and in high-traffic environments.

We are the ceramic color manufacturer serving

global producers—a **technology partner capable of supporting clients through every stage of the project, from design to industrial production.**

With manufacturing based in Montevoglio (Bologna) and a Research & Development Center in Fiorano Modenese, at the heart of Italy's ceramic district, Metco combines advanced chemistry, continuous research, and deep industrial expertise.

Our vision is clear: to **become the global benchmark for technical and sustainable ceramic coloring,** offering solutions that blend aesthetics, innovation, and reliability.



SINCE 1990 SPECIALISTS IN DIGITAL COLORING

04

Founded in 1990, **Metco** was established with the goal of bringing technological innovation to ceramic coloring, introducing high-penetration complexed metals for porcelain stoneware.

A major turning point came in 1998 with the opening of the Research & Development Center in Fiorano Modenese, in the heart of the Emilia ceramic district. This marked the beginning of the company's journey toward specializing in digital coloring and becoming an international technical benchmark.

Over the years, Metco has evolved alongside the market, continuously investing in research, innovation, and sustainability.

The opening of branches in China and Brazil has enabled the company to stay close to key global production hubs, providing customers with direct technical support and customized solutions.

Today, with over thirty years of experience, **Metco combines industrial tradition with digital innovation, establishing itself as a global partner for high-performance ceramic coloring**—chosen by those seeking long-term quality, reliability, and competitiveness.



MADE IN ITALY

Metco's identity is deeply rooted in Italy, particularly in Emilia-Romagna, a historic cradle of ceramics and industrial innovation. **The company's entire production cycle takes place in Italy:** manufacturing is based in Montevoglio (Bologna), while the Research & Development Center is located in Fiorano Modenese, at the heart of the Modena ceramic district.

This dual presence allows Metco to combine the technical precision of industrial production with the creativity and expertise that come from constant interaction with the world of artistic and cutting-edge ceramics.

The decision to keep all production and design phases in Italy is a defining element of the company's philosophy—one that values local know-how and ensures direct, rigorous control over every stage of the process.

For Metco, the **"Made in Italy"** label is more than just a geographic designation; it represents a **concrete commitment to quality, safety, and innovation**. It reflects the company's ability to transform manufacturing excellence into advanced technical solutions, shaped by a constant focus on the highest quality standards.





TECHNOLOGY THAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

The technology developed by Metco is an advanced and innovative system for coloring porcelain stoneware, capable of allowing the color to penetrate directly into the body of the tile, going beyond simple surface application. This exclusive approach ensures precise color definition, greater wear resistance, and enhanced durability, making the color an integral part of the material itself. **The result? Surfaces with authentic textural effects, depth, and unique aesthetic richness.**

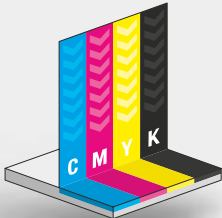
In addition to this distinctive coloring technique,

Metco uses penetrating complexed metals and high-performance digital inks, designed to ensure perfect adhesion and long-lasting resistance, even under industrial use or heavy stress conditions. **This combination of technologies enables the creation of highly detailed decorations that faithfully reproduce the original graphic design.**

Thanks to a production process that combines continuous research, strict quality control, and constant attention to sustainability, **Metco delivers products that blend aesthetics, functionality, and reliability.**



07



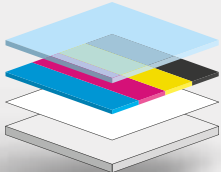
MECTO TECHNIQUE

Post-treatment application inside the tile

Penetration of soluble inks into the tile

Primer application

Tile



TRADITIONAL TECHNIQUES

Application of glazed enamel to protect the decoration

Deposit of pigment-based ink on the surface

White engobe

Tile

CERTIFIED PERFORMANCE

At Metco, product quality and durability are at the core of our research and development. To ensure excellent performance and long-lasting resistance, **tiles decorated with Metco technologies undergo some of the most rigorous certification tests in the ceramic industry.**

Among the most important tests are the PEI and Mazaud, which respectively assess surface abrasion

resistance and the tile's ability to maintain its aesthetic and functional characteristics even after prolonged use.

These tests are essential to guarantee that Metco products meet the demands of various application environments, from low-traffic coverings to the most demanding industrial settings.

PEI TEST

The PEI test (Porcelain Enamel Institute) is one of the fundamental tools Metco uses to evaluate the surface abrasion resistance of glazed ceramic tiles. Using an abrasion tester, the tile's surface is subjected to rotations with steel balls that generate a controlled abrasive action, which helps determine the material's ability to withstand mechanical wear.

The test results classify tiles on a scale from 0 to 5, where 0 indicates minimal resistance—suitable only for wall coverings—while 5 represents maximum resistance, ideal for environments with heavy foot traffic.

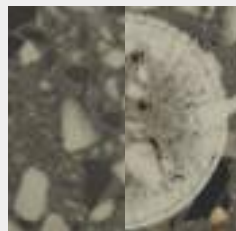
This rating system allows for precise identification of the most appropriate application for each product, ensuring reliable performance over time.

By applying the PEI test, Metco ensures that surfaces decorated with its technologies are not only aesthetically advanced but also capable of maintaining their functional characteristics intact even after prolonged use.

Sinkmet Pigment



250.000
Revolution



100.000
Revolution



25.000
Revolution



12.000
Revolution

MAZAUD TEST

The Mazaud test is a rigorous procedure designed to assess how well a tile decorated with Metco's technologies can withstand wear over time, even under particularly demanding conditions.

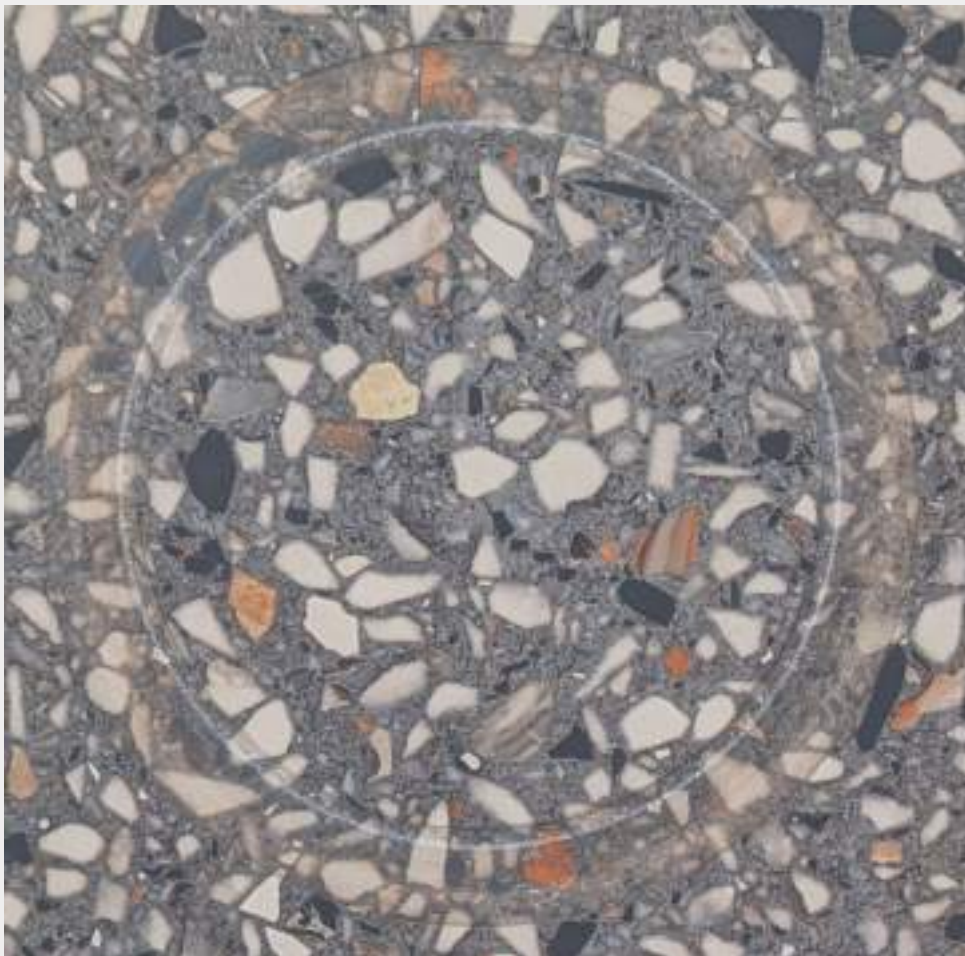
The test involves a steel wheel, weighted at 60 kg, performing 22,320 rotations on a 30x30 cm tile. This simulates approximately 14 km of friction, equivalent to extended use in high-traffic environments.

During the test, the sample is continuously rotated and rubbed by the metal wheel, which applies constant pressure to replicate

the effect of real wear.

At the end of the test, the surface is inspected to ensure it retains its aesthetic and functional properties, such as color, gloss, and mechanical resistance.

Passing the Mazaud test guarantees the durability and reliability of Metco tiles, even in challenging settings where high-performance products are essential over time. This test is a crucial part of the company's quality control system, aimed at delivering durable, high-quality products.



Lorem ipsum dolor

WHY CHOOSE METCO

10

01

DURABILITY

Choosing Metco means opting for products that guarantee superior durability over time. Thanks to advanced coloring technologies and rigorous resistance tests such as PEI and Mazaud, **tiles decorated with Metco maintain their aesthetic and functional characteristics intact even after years of use in high-traffic or demanding environments.**

This strength is the result of a production approach that places quality and durability at the core of research and development, ensuring reliable and long-lasting solutions that do not compromise on beauty.

02

GLOBAL SUPPORT

Offering high-performance products is no longer enough: today, the real added value lies in continuous, expert support tailored to the customer's needs.

For this reason, **Metco supports ceramic manufacturers at every stage of the project, from initial laboratory testing to fine-tuning the production line, ensuring optimal integration, consistent quality, and maximum operational efficiency.**

With branches in China and Brazil, Metco provides direct assistance in key international markets, reducing response times and delivering global service with local expertise.

Thanks to strong chemical and engineering know-how, **Metco's support goes beyond simple supply: it translates into technical consulting, training, and process optimization, turning every project into an industrial and commercial success.**

03

COMPATIBILITY

Thanks to a versatile and highly advanced technology, Metco is able to guarantee optimal performance on any type of porcelain stoneware, without limitations on size or application.

This technical flexibility allows the company to work with a wide range of products, from mass production to highly specialized applications, always ensuring excellent and consistent results.

The integration of materials, production processes, and coloring technologies makes Metco a reliable partner to face the challenges of the ever-evolving ceramic market.

04

CUSTOMIZATION

Metco stands out for its unparalleled customization capabilities, allowing every project to be transformed into a truly unique work of art.

Thanks to the combined use of cutting-edge digital technologies and high-quality complexed metals, it is possible to achieve highly detailed decorations that remain faithful to the original vision. This flexibility enables the creation of endless color variations, textured finishes, and special effects, offering exclusive solutions that meet any aesthetic and functional requirement.

Metco's customization goes beyond simple color variation; it becomes a value-added feature that gives character and a distinctive identity to every space, making each tile a unique and unrepeatable piece—able to tell a story and elevate the project to levels of absolute excellence.



OUR PRODUCT

SINKMET (SSI)

DEEP PENETRATING SOLUBLE SALTS



Sinkmet (SSI) is an exclusive Metco technology that uses soluble salts to deeply penetrate color into porcelain stoneware. The result is intense, long-lasting color, ideal for large surfaces requiring uniformity and durability.

Unlike surface applications, **Sinkmet ensures deep, stable color, making tiles suitable even for high-traffic environments such as public, commercial, or large residential spaces.**

The color range is wide and versatile—from neutral, elegant tones to more vibrant, modern shades—enhancing any design with rich, deep color effects.

ECO-INK

THE SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE



Eco-Ink is an innovative ceramic decoration technology using water-based digital inks free of organic solvents. It significantly reduces VOC emissions, enhancing both environmental sustainability and workplace safety.

Part of Metco's offering, **Eco-Ink combines high technical performance with low environmental impact, while preserving aesthetic quality and durability. It meets the growing demand for eco-friendly solutions.**

The color range includes cyan, magenta, and yellow, with ongoing developments to expand creative and customization options.

NOBACTER

SILVER-BASED ANTIBACTERIAL SOLUTION



Nobacter is Metco's antibacterial technology, based on silver ions, designed to effectively inhibit bacterial growth on ceramic surfaces.

Integrated into ceramic inks, it preserves colors, effects, and finishes while providing long-lasting hygienic protection.

Available on request, Nobacter is suitable for various applications, especially in high-traffic or hygiene-sensitive spaces such as hospitals, schools, public areas, and homes—combining safety, hygiene, and performance.

PRIMERS AND FINISHES

In the ceramic coloring process, surface enhancements represent a crucial phase to ensure not only flawless aesthetics but also high performance in terms of durability, resistance, and functionality.

Leveraging its experience in treating porcelain stoneware surfaces, **Metco offers a range of primers and finishes designed to enhance and protect every project.**

Primers play an essential technical role: they prepare the surface for decoration, improving ink adhesion and graphic quality, resulting in more precise, stable, and long-lasting designs. They are applied as a base before printing to optimize

the interaction between the ceramic substrate and decorative technology.

Finishes, both aesthetic and functional, complete the cycle by providing protection and defining the tile's final appearance. These range from matte, glossy, or satin effects to solutions with advanced technical features, such as increased mechanical or chemical resistance, anti-slip properties, or soft-touch effects.

These treatments are not mere additions but an integral part of Metco's technological vision, which considers every detail as part of a complete system where aesthetics, performance, and durability coexist in balance.



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