

## CEO ITALIAN AWARDS 2023: FEDERICA MINOZZI FROM IRIS CERAMICA GROUP, IS THE WINNER IN THE DESIGN CATEGORY.

Federica Minozzi from Iris Ceramica Group – a company that is internationally acclaimed for its excellence and that has made the designing of new solutions into a creative practice – was chosen by Forbes Italia, Business International the knowledge unit of Fiera Milano to receive the prestigious CEO Italian Awards in the Design category.

Milan, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 – Federica Minozzi from Iris Ceramica Group is amongst the most innovative and successful 2023 CEOs at the lead of Italian and international companies operating in a diverse variety of sectors. The Italian edition of the renowned economic magazine 'Forbes Italia' recently confirmed this, appointing her as winner of the CEO Italian Awards 2023 in the Design category.

The award ceremony was organized by **Business International**, the knowledge unit of **Fiera Milano**, in collaboration with **Forbes Italia**. It involved the selection of those CEOs who, based on the rankings published by the prestigious magazine, represent the best professionals and entrepreneurs leading Italian companies. As the country's élite managers, these individuals have distinguished themselves for their competency, professionality and audacity when making their business more competitive on global markets. Crucially, they share a focus on making their companies positive spaces that can better workers' life quality and improve the territories where they operate.

"The CEOs imperative" was the event's 23<sup>rd</sup> edition and its aim was that of putting forward a reading of the new challenges that the rapidly evolving global context poses to CEOs. The lens of analysis were three: PURPOSE, PROFIT, PLANET.

Iris Ceramica Group's CEO won the award for the Design category. The Group stood out for its capability to engineer new design solutions according to a forward-looking, long-term vision that nonetheless appreciates and enhances the artisanal tradition from which everything began. Importantly, everything the company accomplishes is preceded by careful considerations regarding the safeguard of the Planet. In fact, when devising new applications for ceramics, the Group has always displayed great environmental awareness; sustainability has been a fundamental component of the company's DNA for over half a century. Furthermore, Iris Ceramica Group has long been committed to reach the Sustainable Development Goals of ONU's Agenda 2030 and is actively contributing towards all 17 SDGs.



"Our goal is that of reengineering ceramics, a natural material with incredible potential, to develop new solutions. We express our values through this innovation process, all the while acknowledging our cultural heritage. We aim to make our identity known, especially since it has made us proud representatives of the Made in Italy tradition all over the world – commented **Federica Minozzi**, CEO of Iris Ceramica Group. I am honored to receive this prestigious award that testifies to our efforts in creating new design solutions through modern technologies that foster sustainable innovation. For over 60 years, protecting the environment has been central to our business model. This brave approach aims to build a greener future. Although it is, undeniably, an ambitious goal, we have already carried out the first steps in its direction: the first ever ceramic factory designed to be powered exclusively by green hydrogen was built and will be operative within 2025."

The award-ceremony took place on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November in Milan during the Gala that followed the **9**<sup>th</sup> **edition of the yearly CEO Summit**, organized by **Business International** and dedicated to celebrating the best Italian managers. This was a formative moment, as experts, academics, respected journalists and those who represent international economic and financial institutions, came together. The CEOs that stood out for their approach to innovation and sustainability were then assigned awards; they proved their ability to make their company more competitive on global markets, but also that of improving the areas where their business is based and of being especially attentive to people's necessities, be they workers or members of the local community.

## **Iris Ceramica Group**

Sustainability, innovation and excellent quality for pioneering ceramic slabs and surfaces: Iris Ceramica Group is a world benchmark in the design and development of high-end natural ceramic materials for innovative solutions and architecture, design and furnishing projects. With over 60 years of business experience, the Group works in over one hundred countries, with a very clear vocation: to re-engineer ceramics to improve the interaction between people and the environment they live in thanks to this natural material, one of the most noble and high-performing in the world. Iris Ceramica Group, which has around 1500 employees worldwide, has its headquarters in Fiorano Modenese, and production sites in Italy, between the provinces of Modena and Reggio Emilia, in addition to two production sites abroad, in Germany and the United States.

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