

Cosentino Statement

In response to the recent news published in Spain regarding the judgment of a case involving Cosentino, the company would like to express the following:

- Cosentino made the decision to **put an end to a nearly 15-year legal dispute by reaching a settlement that implies the company's assumption of liability solely for providing insufficient technical information** about Silestone® to a specific third-party fabrication shop and exclusively affecting 5 employees of this fabricator.
- **News articles that refer to other admissions made by Cosentino are completely false**, including that Cosentino concealed information about the health & safety measures required to fabricate Silestone® or that the handling of Silestone® has caused the majority of cases of silicosis that have affected 1,856 workers.
- For clarification, **the result of this case cannot be generalized to any past or future proceedings**. Indeed, **there are judgements where it is confirmed that Cosentino has provided sufficient and accurate information** about its products in other similar cases.
- The Company has reached this settlement in a context where the relevant **facts of the case are from more than 15 years ago when the applicable legislation was imprecise**, and the science of occupational risk prevention had not yet evolved to today's standards. Also, **the main parties of this particular case had already withdrawn their claims** via settlement with the legal representatives of the affected parties due to the **insolvency of the fabricator for which they worked**.
- It is essential to note that it **is the fabrication shops' responsibility to ensure the safety of their workers by properly implementing and enforcing safety measures**. The agreement that was reached includes the indictment of the fabrication shop for the crime against the safety of their workers and excludes Cosentino in this respect.
- In fact, the judgment claims that **already in 1999, the fabrication shop had a risk assessment that concluded the "existence of hygienic risk to the health of workers due to the presence of free silica and breathable dust in the environment"** as well as of measurements that tripled the exposure limit value for silica dust. Being aware of the risk, **the fabrication shop manager did not take any corrective action** or request additional information on the composition of the product.
- The fabrication shop manager had already known since 1999 the risks associated with the transformation of our product and did not act accordingly. **Therefore, the completeness of the technical information provided by Cosentino as manufacturing company to this fabrication shop would have been irrelevant for these workers in the absence of an implementation of the most minimal safety measures**.
- Beyond the scope of this case, **Cosentino maintains it has complied with the applicable regulations over the years, upholding its responsibility as a manufacturer and supplier**. The company is deeply committed to the research, development, and education of best practices and procedures to ensure the well being of its employees and customers working with the product.
- As global leader, Cosentino is the first manufacturer in the sector to have made **significant R&D investments year after year** — most notably with the launch of the pioneering **HybriQ® Technology**, patented by Cosentino and developed for the **manufacturing of the new Silestone®**, which reduces the presence of silica (quartz) in its composition in two main levels: **"Silestone® -50", which indicates a silica content below that percentage, and "Silestone® -10", below 10%**. Currently, **all Cosentino production of this material is below 50% silica content**.
- This court ruling is limited to a specific case and **does not affect the management of the company**, which will continue to **act in a fully committed and transparent manner with its employees, customers and other stakeholders**.