

Cristalleries de Saint-Louis

Impeccable adhesive bonding of crystal

The Cristalleries de Saint-Louis create and produce usual and decorative objects appreciated in the whole world. Here, aesthetic sophistication is only matched by the manufacturing quality. The company sought for expertise to characterize the adhesives it uses and to define the implementation of bonding processes.

Bonding crystal parts to most varied materials while keeping the assembly invisible, but with highest possible resistance: this is the challenge that must take up the Cristalleries de Saint-Louis, subsidiary of Hermès group. The designers turned to Cetim to improve glass-to-metal bonding for ceiling lights from the Excess series, imagined by the designer Hervé van der Straeten.

To guarantee the quality of the adhesives...

"Those ceiling lights comprise structures and nickelled cast iron and aluminium bulb fasteners with crystal shades",

explains Virginia Leveau, in charge of the processes at Saint-Louis. Of course, the adhesives manufacturer gave full guaranty as for the quality of the product he proposed. But here nothing is left to chance! *"We wished nevertheless to consult Cetim to ensure the good performance of the adhesive on these various types of materials"*, says Virginia Leveau. After assessment, Cetim confirmed the good adequacy of the product with its considered use.

... and of processes

To go even further in the safety of bonding metal to crystal, Cetim recommended to optimize the adhesion



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surface by modifying the crystal parts' manufacturing process. On their side, the Cristalleries de Saint-Louis imagined to improve the bonding process by a preliminary polishing of the metal surface. The tests, entrusted again to Cetim, confirmed the assumptions and a better traction resistance was achieved. *"The technical characterization of bonding by a technical centre like Cetim is very useful, not only for the quality of our processes, but also for reassuring the customers. This is all the more important that our Excess lights are for instance in service in a very high standing hotel where a lot of people go by"*, says Virginia Leveau.

OUR CUSTOMER

Corporate name
Cristalleries de Saint-Louis

Sales turnover
16,3 million euro in 2008

Workforce
270 people

Activity
Saint-Louis holds in his hands through its craftsmen, blowers, cutters, decorators..., a know-how and a culture of crystal among the best in the world



Cetim's asset

Cetim has a complete experience in adhesive bonding. It can thus have the companies benefit, within an individual or collective framework, of an assistance at every step of study or production: design, choice of the adhesive, bonds characterization, information.