



THE FABER PRODUCTION PLANT IN SASSOFERRATO HAS BEEN ACCIDENT-FREE FOR OVER 2.000 DAYS

More than 5 years without work-related accidents - the Berbentina production plant confirms its excellence, setting a European record in the sector of household appliances.

Fabriano, 18 May 2015. Faber's Berbentina production plant has achieved a historic target - for more than 2.000 days (over 5 years) there have been no accidents, which is a new record in Italy and in Europe in the household appliance sector. The result achieved by the Sassoferrato production plant confirms yet again the **Made in Italy excellence** which makes the Faber brand famous worldwide.

A few days ago **all the employees** of the **Berbentina** plant in Sassoferrato, led by Mr **Giorgio Rossi**, the plant's chief manager, celebrated this important achievement together. *"Sadly 629 people were killed in the workplace last year in Italy, almost 2 per calendar day, and more than 800,000 were injured, which amounts to 2.000 injuries per day,"* commented Mr Rossi. *"These figures give an idea of how important our achievement is and remind us of how crucial it is to spread and apply true safety culture. It is not just a matter of law and regulations - it is a matter of civilisation."*

"The integrity of assets, the health and safety of workers and protecting the environment and community we live in have always been a priority for our company," commented Mr Riccardo Remedi, Managing Director of Faber. *"We believe that working safely comes before any economic objective and business-related objective in general. This is why over the years Faber has continued to implement and consolidate new projects and activities aimed at improving safety in its procedures, gradually lowering the number of injuries and accidents involving people."*

Faber has promoted a true "step-change" in the last years in particular. It has worked in great detail and with great effort on day-to-day behaviour and on promoting the growth and consolidation of the culture of safety in all the organisation. *"We worked on three main directives,"* explained Mr Rossi. *"We worked on technology, identifying and using the best available for the facility and for accident prevention, on the adopted procedures, which are increasingly accurate, and on integrated management systems for health and safety and for the environment (which are OHSAS and ISO-certified in all our operating units) and on the promotion of safe behaviour in all our organisation."*

This allowed Faber to reduce the chance of injury to less than one every three million hours of work. The culture of safety can be seen especially in the reduction of hazardous situations, which are promptly analysed in order to understand the causes and eliminate them. To obtain this result, in the past few years the company has invested in over 11,000 hours training for all staff members, and has implemented constant, strict checks with over 70 control audits, to ensure that all employees complied with the established procedures, efficiently planning work so that attention and focus were high during all the phases of the production process.

Product quality is also the result of the quality of the workplace. The brand's most exclusive hoods are manufactured in the Sassoferrato production plant - these hoods are appreciated worldwide for their performance, materials, **precious finishes** and **the highest levels of design**. Thanks to the constant commitment to pursue the objectives and strategies aimed at continuous improvement in terms of process organisation and cost reduction (according to the **Lean manufacturing** techniques), the Sassoferrato production plant can be considered one of the **most evolved examples of the production system in the household appliance sector**.

Originally founded in 1955 as a company working with plastic and synthetic resin materials, Faber began making kitchen extractor hoods in 1958, producing the first plexiglas model and establishing what is now known as the “Fabriano hood district”. The company’s sheer passion and determination have seen it grow first in Europe and then into a global organisation, thanks to a series of acquisitions of different manufacturing sites. Faber now extends to 4 continents with plants in 7 countries, including Italy, Sweden, France, Argentina, Turkey, India and Mexico, plus a branch in Russia, making Faber one of the three largest manufacturers of kitchen extractor hoods in the world. The Group leads the sector in Italy, where one out of two hoods sold is made by Faber, and is present all over the world through its own brand as well as leading local brands. Continuous internationalisation and willingness to accept new challenges has led Faber to become part of Franke, the Swiss multi-national leader in Kitchen Systems.

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