

# Newsletter

**RECKLI**®



## ► Terracotta-Concrete

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# Terracotta-Concrete

A building or structure facade is an advertisement for the designer or architect. It can also be a popular landmark and depending on the location of the building its initial visual impact can be considerable.

The use of a patterned or textured concrete facade allows the architect and designer to produce subtle nuances of light and shadow to the building.

The use of elastic RECKLI®-Formliners for texturing the exposed face of concrete surfaces has attained a high degree of acceptance in terms of quality, ease of use and economic efficiency. Many millions of square metres of this type of finished concrete are the proof of this. The elasticity of our formliners removes the risk of damage to the hardened concrete allowing intricate detail to be used.

This system has given architects, planners and designers the freedom to realize unlimited ideas in their designs for the past 35 years.

**The new generation of RECKLI® Photo-Engraving Formliners expands these possibilities in a previously unknown way.**

The combination of the RECKLI®-System and the Photo-Engraving Technology creates a surface pattern which can vary from fine to coarse depending on the resolution of the image used. This image can then be incorporated onto the finished concrete surface by using the RECKLI®-Formliner system.

The Photo-Engraving Process is a computer-based method for transferring image data onto sheet materials by means of milling technology. First an image template is scanned and converted into 256 grey scales. In order to transfer the image onto the sheet material, a machining file is generated from the identified

grey values, whereby the file includes milling commands for a special CNC milling machine.

The milled model is used as a master for casting the elastic RECKLI®-Formliners. Their elasticity, quality and reusability contribute to the aesthetics and the economic efficiency of the whole process and make it possible to recreate the image onto the concrete surface.

The applications are almost unlimited because almost any image in standard graphic formats can be used. The templates are scalable, which allows the production of Photo-Engraving Formliners in any size.

The size of the formliners is limited by the maximum dimensions of the available sheet material and the maximum milling area of the CNC machine. Indeed it is possible to put more plates together to one common picture or to several parts of one picture. But please note that junctions cross to the vertical running engraving grooves will unavoidable lead to barely visible joint lines. Therefore we ask you to contact us for a clarification of this question in advance.

A nice example of the successful use of photo-engraving is the object OVATA in Bleiswijk in Holland. The company is the world's largest producer of cacti and other succulents of all kinds. For their greenhouse with an administration area, built in 2007 and the largest greenhouse for these types of plant with a floor area of 76,000 m<sup>2</sup>, an exterior wall made of rust-brown dyed precast concrete elements (element size 4.15 m x 1.39 m) was chosen with a photo-engraved succulent motif. Hence, every one can see immediately what is inside.

Corporate architecture in the best sense!



*From photo to precast part: original photo master, formliner and concrete element with photo-engraved motif.*



*Manufacture of the model for the photo-engraving formliner using a CNC miller*