

from
the earth,
FOR
the Earth



Eco Gres® - recycled stoneware

Eco Gres® is a registered trademark of Grestel. Products under this label are guaranteed to be made of non-hazardous recycled materials, derived from ceramic surplus and other additives.

A new raw material, completely eco-friendly.

All Eco-Gres® products are guaranteed to be food-safe, complying with the International Standards.

In addition, Eco-Gres® is in line with the European directives 2006/12/CE and 2008/98/CE, oriented toward transforming the EU into a «recycling society». This trademark is a result of years of an internal investigation, in collaboration with a local university (Universidade de Aveiro), and the result is an upgraded (recycled) raw material that presents several advantages to the environment:

Natural Resources Preservation – by the reduction in the extraction volume of natural raw materials;

Energy Efficiency – reduced ecological footprint; Health and Safety –reduction of waste otherwise disposed of in a landfill

## The process - collect and recycle

Grestel sees its products and operations as part of a long-life cycle and is committed to taking better care of the community and of the world.

In this commitment to sustainability, Grestel is developing a new raw material, by collecting, recycling and reusing clays and glazes from its own operations and other materials.

The result is Eco-Gres®, a reinvented clay, made of recycled materials and completely eco-friendly.

## How is Eco Gres ® made

The Eco-Gres® production process begins by collecting clay waste from our factory and combining it with other materials in order to stabilize the final composition.

The recycled clay represents approximately 25% of all clay purchased from external suppliers.

Finally, Eco-Gres® consists of 90% recycled materials and other substances.

The process of converting these surpluses into Eco-Gres® involves a set of sequential steps:

Mixing the products  $\rightarrow$  sieve  $\rightarrow$  homogenization & stabilization  $\rightarrow$  sieve  $\rightarrow \Box$  filter-pressing  $\rightarrow$  shredding  $\rightarrow$  extrusion  $\rightarrow \Box$  shaping  $\rightarrow \Box$  drying  $\rightarrow$  glazing  $\Box$  firing.

In the end, a homogeneous and flexible clay body is obtained, ready to be (re) used in Grestel's production line. The whole process takes place within the same factory, also contributing to the reduction of our carbon footprint.

All COSTA NOVA collections are produced with respect for nature - reusable and recyclable. âmbar, Lagoa Eco Gres and Plano go even further ahead, telling a unique story of how tableware can be made of recycled materials, completely eco-friendly while remaining beautiful and functional at the same time.





