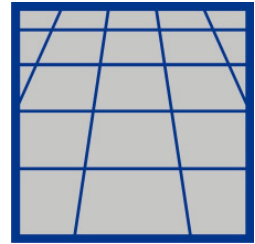


Pressing agents



ZUSOPLAST

Application

Pressing agents are mainly used in the tile sector for the manufacture of complicated geometries such as border tiles and mouldings. They promote **better shaping characteristics**, and hence contribute to the **optimization of pressing**.

Pressing agents facilitate the flow of the granulate under pressure, thus leading to **homogeneous compaction** during the pressing process. Hence, it contributes to a **reduction of the internal stresses**, which can lead to damages, particularly cracks and breakages, during the technological processes, that follow.

Pressing agents further **act as softeners** within the individual granules so that during pressing a **simple breakdown of the residual granulate structure** becomes possible.

Friction inside the pressed article, as well as between the article and the mould wall, is reduced. An **increase in effective mould life** is thereby possible.

Mode of action

Pressing agents from Zschimmer & Schwarz for the tile sector are produced from raw materials based on **polyoxyethylene preparations**.

By coating the granulate particles with pressing aid, **a lubricating layer is built up**, and the **decrease of internal friction** in the ceramic body that is associated with this, leads to a homogeneous compaction, and thus contributes to a reduction of internal stresses. The formation of a lubricating layer between the body and the mould similarly reduces the frictional forces occurring there.

There is also the possibility of using non water-miscible, low-hazardous forming and pressing oils. These pressing oils are sprayed onto the granulate prior to pressing, and similarly give rise to the formation of the previously described lubricating layer, through a coating of the individual granules.

Detailed information on this topic is given in our special information **“Information about low-hazardous forming and pressing oils”**.