

Excelling in pre-painted steel

ArcelorMittal strengthens involvement with ECCA

Chantal Bretton of ArcelorMittal Distribution Solutions (AMDS) was elected President of the European Coil Coating Association (ECCA) at their May 2014 Annual General Meeting. The appointment comes at an extremely important time for the organisation as it launches its ECCA Premium® quality and sustainability label for pre-painted metal products.



Chantal Bretton at the ECCA Annual General Meeting where she was elected President of the association

Founded in 1967, the European Coil Coating Association (ECCA) represents more than 120 companies active in coil coating. This includes coil coaters such as ArcelorMittal, paint suppliers, and research institutes. Since its foundation, ECCA has played a vital role in developing tests for coated coils. ECCA's methods were incorporated into the European standard (EN 13523) for testing coil coated metals.

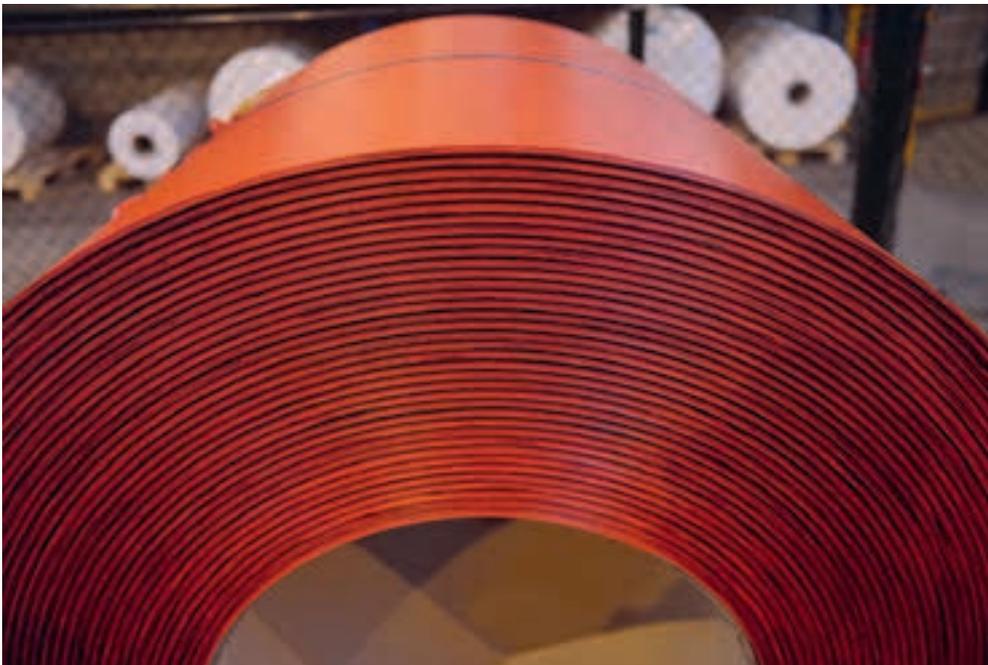
Monitoring and promotion

ECCA's main mission is to promote the use of pre-painted metal products for both interior and exterior applications. About 70% of the products produced by ECCA members are used in exterior applications. The remainder are used in interior applications such as home appliances, ceilings, lighting, lifts, decorative walls, and furniture. Through case studies on the ECCA website and in its magazine, specifiers are able to gain a deeper understanding of the advantages and infinite finishes of pre-painted metals.

ECCA has a number of working groups which take an active interest in specific subjects relating to coil coating. For example, ECCA's Technical Working Group undertakes an annual update of European norms (EN standards) on pre-painted metal products.

Save the date: ECCA and ArcelorMittal invite customers to Spring 2015 Conference

ArcelorMittal would like to extend a warm welcome to its customers who wish to attend ECCA's Spring Conference which is to be held in May 2015 in Krakow (Poland). The event will provide customers with the latest information on coil coating and includes a visit to the ArcelorMittal Świętochłowice organic coating line.



“ArcelorMittal customers benefit from our membership of ECCA through access to the organisation’s biannual conferences, newsletters and reports. The ECCA Academy provides a valuable training resource for the employees of our customers and students of architecture. It enables anyone to develop their ability and experience with pre-painted metal.”

Chantal Bretton,
President of ECCA

The ECCA Premium® label



The ECCA Premium® label ensures the quality and sustainability of pre-painted metals for outdoor applications. ECCA developed the label to differentiate quality products which meet European standards from inferior imports. Speaking on her appointment as President of ECCA, Chantal Bretton noted that the quality label will “Affirm the excellence of European pre-painted products.”

ECCA members have been able to apply for the ECCA Premium® label since mid-September 2014. Certification is carried

out by a panel of independent certification bodies. Once a line is certified, the ECCA Premium® label can be applied to any product produced on that line. Additional random inspections are performed to ensure continued compliance. Non-European producers of coated coils can also apply to be certified.

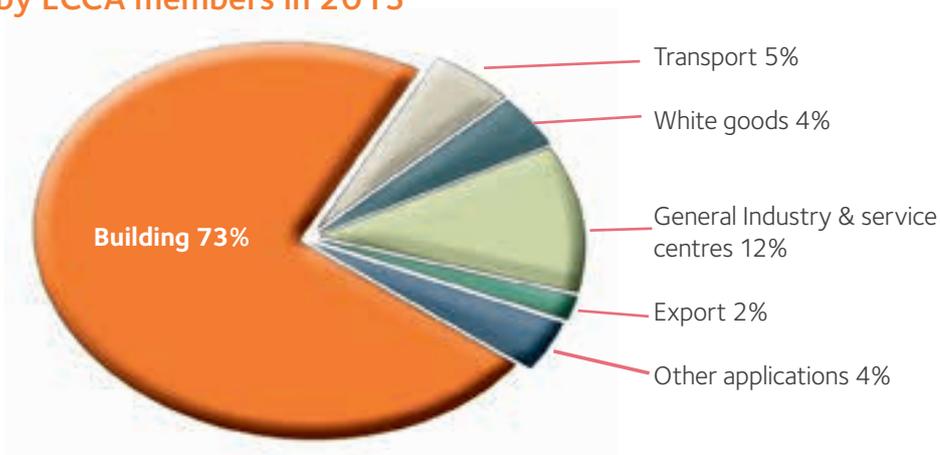
ArcelorMittal plans to obtain certification for its coated products and was one of the first companies to apply for the label in September 2014.

For more information about the ECCA Premium® label, please visit: www.eccapremium.com

A current subject of interest to the Technical Working Group is the salt spray tests which are traditionally used to certify coated coils. Existing tests are too severe for many projects as they mimic a highly corrosive marine environment. It has never been demonstrated that the results of the accelerated salt spray test correlate with the performance of coated products in outdoor conditions. The Technical Working Group’s goal is to harmonise efforts to develop a new standard which will accurately predict corrosion in real-life situations.

Twice a year ECCA holds conferences which provide a platform for members to exchange innovative ideas to improve product or process performance, promote coated products, and to inform members about new and prospective legislation which could affect the industry. Customers of ECCA members are also invited to these events, giving them access to the latest information and coil coating volume statistics.

Main markets for the pre-painted products produced by ECCA members in 2013



For more information about ECCA, please visit: www.prepaintedmetal.eu. The ECCA Academy can be accessed directly at: www.prepaintedmetalacademy.eu