PERFECTION in PORCELAIN
Porcelain is created by the kiln firing of finely milled clay to temperatures between 1,200 and 1,400 °C. The hardness, strength, and translucence of porcelain arise mainly from the vitrification of glass and silicate mineral within the fired body.

Porcelain derives its present name from the Italian word 'porcellana' due its resemblance to the translucent surface of a shell. Porcelain is referred to as "china" in some English-speaking countries, as this was its birthplace. Properties associated with porcelain include permeability as low as 0.5%, elasticity, hardness, toughness, translucency and a high resistance to chemical attack and thermal shock.

Telling Architectural offer a range of Porcelain Rainscreen Cladding systems sourced from selected European manufacturers. An unsurpassed range of finishes in simulated stone and metallic effects, polished, honed and textured surfaces, are available.

Porcelain façades offer distinctive and modern design creativity in maximum formats up to 1000 mm x 3000 mm. They integrate perfectly with other forms of cladding and are supported on lightweight aluminium substructures suitable for installation upon all modern construction walling as well as in refurbishment.

What is Porcelain?

Porcelain is ideal for prefabrication off site in modern methods of construction. Colour co-ordinated but visible clip fixing methods are economic and increasingly accepted.

Dimensions

Porcelain façade panels up to 12 mm in thickness weigh no more than 40 kg/m². The size of the panels are flexible in their horizontal and vertical orientation with maximum panel dimensions of 3000 x 1000 mm. The aesthetic of the façade can be optimised with composite mitred corners sections.

Appearance and Attachment

Porcelain rainscreens are manufactured to exacting tolerances to provide symmetrical elegance in vivid and exhilarating precision.

Our porcelain rainscreens are tested to CWCT standards at the Vinci Laboratories, a UKAS approved testing body.

The panels may be fixed by mechanical anchorage or structurally bonded and are suitable for use within curtain walling or as a rainscreen fixed to lightweight steel, timber framed or traditional building backgrounds. Porcelain is ideal for prefabrication off site in modern methods of construction. Colour co-ordinated but visible clip fixing methods are economic and increasingly accepted.

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Taking its name from the region perhaps better known for its Grand Prix Motor Racing, Imola have sought new heights in combining nature and technology to give birth to a new concept in porcelain tile production. Their eco-efficient corporate principles that made manufacturing under ISO 14001 Environmental Certification a pre-requisite, have now been extended to Biogres and Progretto Life in Italy.

Biogres is a range using 100% recycling of raw waste and re-use of water, achieving a 20% reduction in energy consumption and 15% reduction in CO₂ emissions. Progretto Life involves an ecological process for the utilisation of waste from the industries of ceramic and similar materials (marbles and granite) at a dump created by Ceramica d’Imola under an innovative process involving reactive sintering. The long term goal is to create a generation of new products that are entirely recyclable. In both cases we will be pleased to provide further detailed information.

In terms of the Porcelain range of tiles and colours, Imola have created a Colour Definition System to create a world of endless aesthetic solutions, high graphic definition, chromatic clarity and technical excellence. CDS is the greatest expression of style and design. There are three ranges of Imola porcelains in the ‘casa’, ‘design’ and ‘arkim’ collections within which natural, matt, textural and polished tiles and simulated effects of stone, metal and wood are featured. Whilst Telling Architectural specialise in porcelain façades, the Imola range are suitable for interior floors and walls for domestic, commercial and public projects and we will be happy to place you in contact with their local representative for these lines.
Celebrating 50 years in business progressive growth has made Casalgrande one of the world’s industry leaders achieved by its commitment to the research and development of products and solutions that perfectly meet the demands and desires of the architectural and design world. The Award of the coveted Grand Prix International Award launched in 1990 led to the publication of their Creative Book which showcases the expressive and the potential of their products. They state ‘in our philosophy, made in Italy’, does not merely mean beauty or luxury, it means ethical choices, commitment and responsibility: values that have enabled us to turn a product into an experience to be shared.

Employing 1150 staff in the heart of the world’s most important ceramic district, Casalgrande manufacture 35 million square metres per year. Their relentless search for excellence and a stringent product quality programme enable them to effectively assist in the development of a project. Casalgrande produce environmentally friendly materials for contemporary architecture using sustainability orientated industrial plants and environmental and energy policy procedures according to ISO 14001. It also fully shares the Corporate Social Responsibility guidelines promoted by the UN and European Union.

Whilst Telling Architectural specialise in porcelain façades the Casalgrande range is suitable for interior floors and walls for domestic, commercial and public projects and we will be happy to place you in contact with their local representative for these lines.
As the largest manufacturer in a single facility in the world producing 62 million square metres, Kaleseramik has upheld the philosophy of 'producing without consuming nature' by recycling and maximising the conservation of natural resources. The Kalesinterflex range leads the sector with revolutionary products in size, pattern and texture allowing panels of up to 3.00 metres by 1.0 metre to be manufactured in thicknesses ranging from 3mm-11 mm.

With over half a century’s experience in the ceramics sector, Kale have sought to bring to the consumer and the professional, an experience in which all expectations, aesthetically and technically, will be fulfilled in an extremely high quality.

Kalesinterflex is produced under an environmentally friendly technology holding an Ecospecifier certificate. Compared to traditional ceramic production processes its gas and dust emission are 20 times lower and its CO₂ emissions 1000 times less. Vibrant colours, glass like high gloss finishes and a diffused light translucency of 2.5% are features of the Kalesinterflex range with natural stone, matt and polished surfaces also available. The panels can be drilled for surface fixing, laminated or secret fixed on aluminium support systems. Photovoltaic and Photochromic innovations are also available.

Kale have significantly contributed to the revolution of large format porcelains as a façade option replacing the previous maximum dimensions of 1200 x 600 mm. Whilst Telling Architectural specialise in porcelain façades the Kale range is suitable for interior floors and walls for domestic, commercial and public projects and we will be happy to place you in contact with their local representative for these lines.
A comprehensive range of porcelain tiles can be viewed at our design studio in Business Design Centre in Islington (see below), one of London’s most convivial facilities for the architectural design community. We invite you to browse at your leisure in a relaxing environment without pressure upon time or commitment. CPD seminars can be arranged for busy professionals at breakfast, lunch or in the evening. Appointments are not normally necessary but please ring ahead.

UK building regulations require Porcelain tiles to have a mesh fabric applied to the rear face of the tile to prevent any section of the tile becoming detached upon impact. To prevent this a mesh is adhesively applied in the warehousing of Telling Architectural in Wolverhampton where cutting services and the preparation of the tiles for undercut anchors is also undertaken (if applicable).

There are other reputable manufacturers with whom we work including Apavisa, Cesar, Mosa and Ariostea, if a specific style of tile is desired and on the proviso that the technical properties of the porcelain are sufficient to meet the performance criteria of the building regulations/standards applicable.

### Technical

**Dimensions (mm)**

- Width >1000 - Length >3000
  - (variable according to manufacturer)
- Weight
  - >35 kgs/m²
- Length & Width
  - >0.05%
- Flatness
  - >0.05%
- Thickness (3-12mm)
  - >0.05%
- Absorption (by mass)
  - <0.05%
- Dimension
  - +/-0.05%
- Modulus of Rupture N/mm²
  - 35 (min)
- Fire Resistance
  - Class O – non flammable

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