

The user's opinion

Huge experience, quality and low environmental impact for the frames made by Italjolly

Alessia Venturi

Company and product

A leading company in the production of folding and sliding wood, PVC and aluminium shutters (picture 1), a presence on the market since many years it has always pur-

sued a policy of environmental protection, both with regard to the raw materials used as well as the finish, and which ten years ago moved to full water-based cycles.

This type of shutter is aimed at a medium-high band of the market, as an

aesthetic quality alternative to roller blinds and the classic swing-door shutters. It is a product, in fact, that is particularly valued by architects and designers where there are architectonic problems and a need for a high degree of aesthe-

1 - The headquarters of Italjolly.





tics, for example where there are renovations of old buildings, and in high class residential settings (picture 2), and designer dwellings. The folding shutter (picture 3), because it is encased inside the walls of the window, once it is open it has a visual impact that does not disturb the beauty of the façade. Considering its function and its use in particularly prestigious settings one can understand how the finish is a fundamental aspect of the manufacturing process.

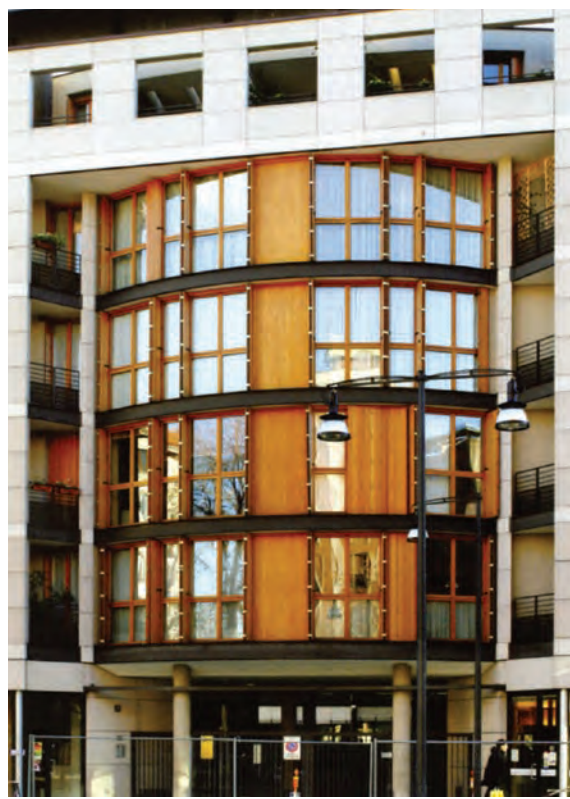
The development plan

The company's development plan – which was explained to us by Giuseppe Piana (picture 4), sales manager in Italjolly and which includes a review of the sales network, the commercial side and a thorough technological modernisation – as far as production is concerned provides for, in fact, the installation of a new painting line for the wood shutters, which will be installed in a new building next to the

existing one. This development plan, which will be completed in 2008, has for its final stage the saturation of the company's production capacity, the expansion of its services throughout the domestic market and its entry into the main overseas markets. «Our objective – Giuseppe Piana explained – is to make an important leap of quality for a company that for many years has stood out for the excellence of its production and its attitude towards environmental protec-

2 - A building in Milan (Italy), designed by the Bentivoglio Brighi studio, fitted with folding Italjolly shutters.

3 - Some examples of the shutters that the company produces



4 - Pasquale Ortillo (on the left), the proprietor of Italjolly, together with Giuseppe Piana, the sales manager.



tion. We have been using water-based coatings for a good ten years thanks to the foresightedness of our owner, Pasquale Ortillo, who understood the importance of changing the solvent-based cycles

to a more environmental-ly friendly one».

«Ten years ago – Pasquale Ortillo explained – a strong sense of principle pushed me to pursue the water-based coatings solution. After an initial tryout with a mixed cycle we later opted for the full water-based cycle.

Unfortunately the type of goods that we produce do not allow the finish to be automated, so we have to do this by hand. Nevertheless, also the quality of the manual application is continually being improved and the system made more efficient».

The application system

In the framework of this qualitative leap, Italjolly has installed in the painting cabin the enhanced pneumatic spraying system for liquid paints

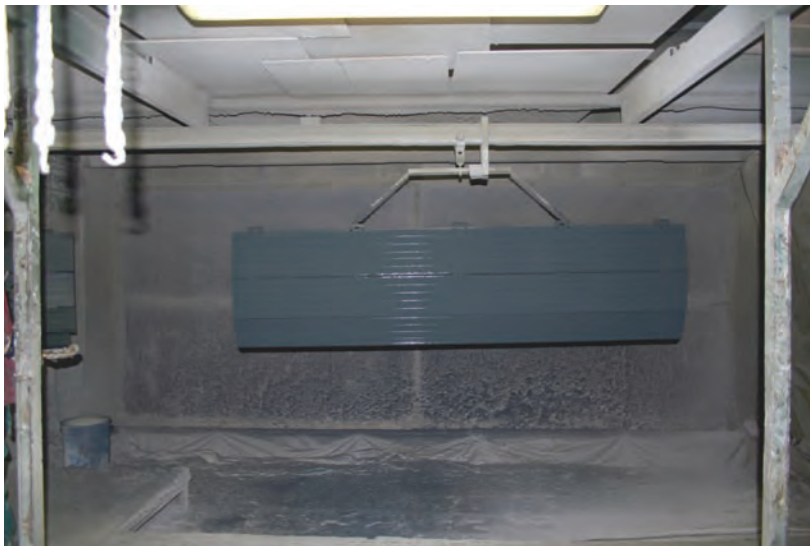
5 - The Simple Paint enhanced application system from Ate, installed by Stiver in the painting cabin.





6 - The gun that sprays the water-based paint onto the leaves of the shutter: we can see that the overspray is reduced to a minimum and also we can note the precision of the direction of the paint, which is not deviated by disturbing electrostatic charges.

(Simple Paint, picture 5) installed by Stiver in Cinisello Balsamo (Mi) and designed by Ate in Vighizzolo di Cantù (Co). The equipment, which we have already described in this magazine, provides for improved nebulisation of the paint, a considerable reduction in the overspray, namely the fumes in the cabin (picture 6) and greater cabin cleanliness (picture 7), with a considerable saving of paint as a result. Precisely this latter aspect proved to be decisive for Pasquale Ortillo when he made the decision to purchase the system after the test period offered by the installer, who followed the entire unfolding of the test. «When they presented me with the system I

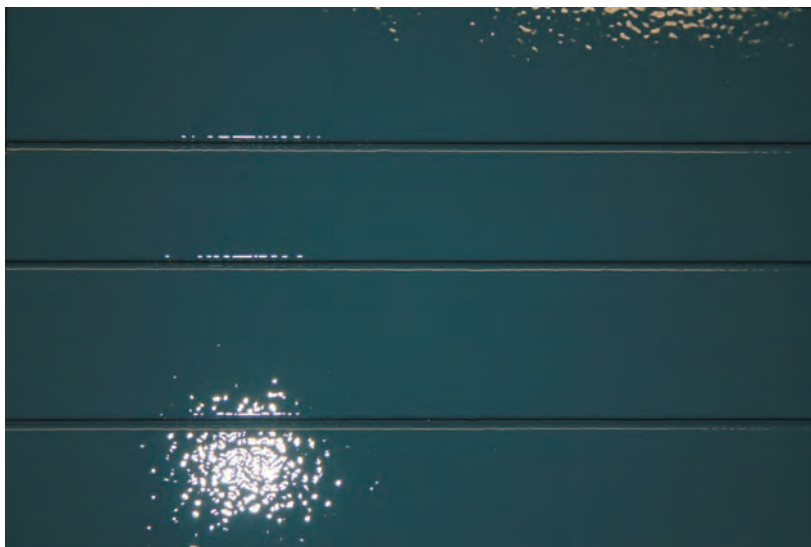


7 - The dry painting cabin.





8 - Finishing the shutter: the excellent spread and the evenness of the paint film is clearly visible.



was not really convinced that it was really effective, given the numerous challenges that we face daily - he continued, accompanying us on our visit - but I was forced to change my mind: it is state of the art product and for us it has become essential, to such an extent that we will install it on all the cabins of the new painting system.

The savings we have achieved since the introduction of this optimization system is about 25% of the product ready for use, and we have reached even 30%.

As far as the application technology is concerned, the mechanism is identical to the previous

one, but the distribution of the paint and the evenness of the film (picture 8) are much improved, because the Simple Paint system considerably improves the penetration of the paint in the corners («in the case of electrostatic application - the manufacturer's technicians explained - it eliminates the Faraday cage»), since it completely neutralizes the electrostatic charges that always form during the surface preparation and application phases, and at the same time resolves the problem of magnetism, allowing for an optimal coverage in the corner and especially in the slots (a critical point for shutters), without further loading the outside part of the corner».

The production and finish cycle

The production cycle part of the coarse wood to finish with the shutter complete with metallic parts (pictures 9-10). The technology was developed entirely in-house by Italjolly, which also has the dies for the hinges, at one time produced in-house but now entrusted to third-parties.

The classic finish cycle for the wood shutters is as follows:

- smoothing
- immersion impregnation
- brushing
- coat to finish.

Production runs at about 35-40,000 m²/yr, which translates into more than 22,000 pieces (2005 data).





«We sell directly to the construction companies – explained Giuseppe Piana – which rely on the requirements of the designer, who know us because of the technical characteristics of our production, but in the

future we are thinking of widening the market by involving also retailers, with a different and specific product».

↳ Mark 13 on the information card



9 / 10 - Two stages in the production of the shutters from coarse wood to hinged leaf.

