

# Innovative & alternative laminates

Vetroresina S.p.A. is promoting new products for exteriors and interiors, pushing its production capacity to the highest level following the implementation of new production technology and a very active R&D Centre

Words Renato Antonini

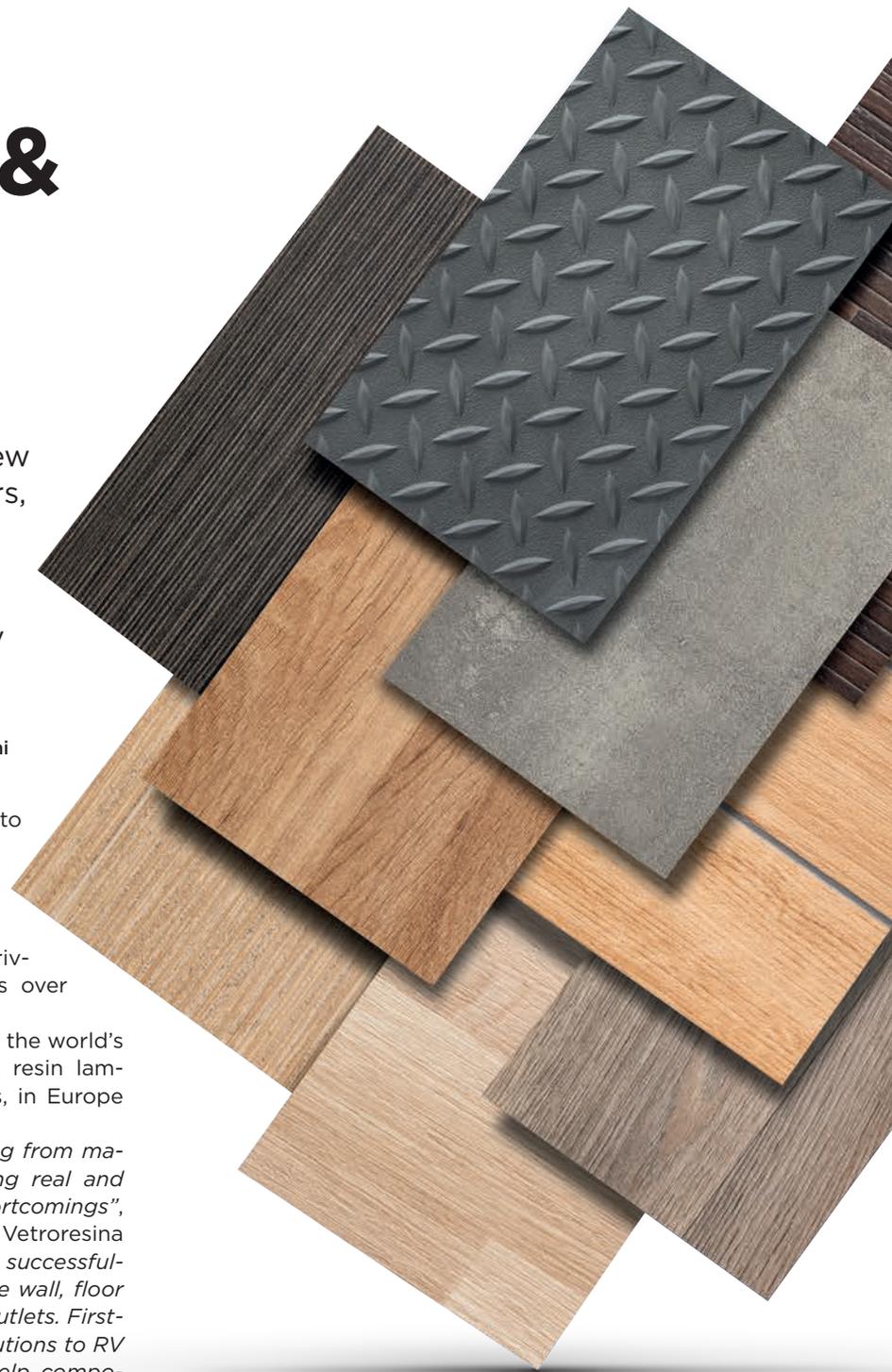
**V**etroresina S.p.A. has been as busy as ever to meet the increased and diversified market demands, continuing production despite these difficult times. The company has achieved this by capitalising on over fifty years of experience and on the consolidated and privileged relationships established with suppliers over time.

Let's not forget that Vetroresina S.p.A. is one of the world's largest producers of fibreglass and polyester resin laminates, working with several RV manufacturers, in Europe and North America.

*"At a time when RV manufacturers are suffering from material shortages, Vetroresina S.p.A. is providing real and prompt answers to make up for supply chain shortcomings", said Fabrizio Baglioni, Commercial Director of Vetroresina S.p.A. "For instance, fibreglass laminates can be successfully used to replace wood in vehicle interiors, like wall, floor and roof panels. This activity has two primary outlets. Firstly, we offer some advantageous, alternative solutions to RV builders, especially in Europe. Secondly, we help component distributors faced with increasing demands from workshops for repairing and refurbishing old and deteriorated vehicles."*

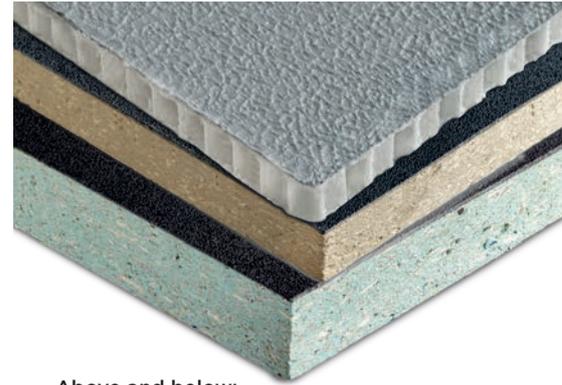


Vetrostyle



## Vetrostyle

Vetroresina S.p.A. has been offering laminates for interiors, alongside the traditional exterior applications, for some time now. For instance, Vetrostyle laminates can be used to replace the traditional wood solutions employed for making sandwich floor panels. Vetroresina S.p.A. can supply a laminated laminate (fibreglass-PVC), called Vetrostyle, designed to avoid additional machining and reduce assembly time. Vetrostyle does not have a visible gelcoat surface and can have the finish and colours chosen by the customer, like imitation wood. PVC is applied during production without the use of additional adhesives. Vetrostyle is a flooring solution with many advantages. It is a single laminate sheet with remarkable mechanical strength and no joints. It is impervious to moisture, easily washable and, importantly, it



Above and below:  
Vetroskin



reduces labour costs. Vetrostyle with PVC flooring finish is made in several versions with different surface layer finish, thickness, mechanical properties and types of glass fibre used.

*“A Vetrostyle variant called Diamond Plate is of great interest to manufacturers for making the loading surface of garage compartments”, said Fabrizio Baglioni. “It has a characteristic 3D non-slip surface, excellent appearance and considerable resistance to friction wear and oils, resulting from the combined use of fibreglass and techno-polymers.”*

**Vetroskin**

Fibreglass laminates usually conjure up an idea of smooth, white surfaces but the time has come to overcome this stereotype. The Research & Development Centre of Vetroresina S.p.A. has been hard at work to create a laminate with special surface effects and colours other than white. It is called Vetroskin and comes in two variants (Delta and Levant). It is made by impregnating a mat with

polyester resin in a special mould to create a rough, embossed surface that is three-dimensional and pleasant in appearance. This effect can be exploited in two ways. Vetroskin Delta has a material design effect making it particularly suitable for replacing melamine-faced wood in many parts of the interiors, like side wall cladding, interior roof cladding, partition walls between kitchenette and toilet or between the toilet and sleeping area. In terms of appearance, it offers an interesting array of colour options (many RAL colours, plus others on demand). When used in RV toilets and kitchenettes, it has the further advantages of not absorbing odours or moisture as well as being easy to wash. However, the rough effect is also exploited by Vetroskin Levant, ideal for cladding load compartments. The non-slip surface is useful on the floor of garages in the rear of RVs, because the roughness prevents objects from sliding about while driving and, above all, facilitates the loading/unloading of bicycles and motorbikes.



**J451 laminate**

Flexible, light and extremely thin, this is one of Vetroresina S.p.A.’s new products, created by exploiting the possibilities offered by recently introduced new production methods. Its official name is J451 and it is an evolution of the J450 laminate designed for roof cladding. It is just 1.2 mm thick and weighs 1.7 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, but offers excellent mechanical strength.

