

Dear Customer

Re: Cutting properties of Large Porcelain tiles – e.g. Alabastro Ash 1200x600x10mm

When using large format tiles, we need to take into consideration the different pressing technique used in making such larger tiles. Such different techniques affect the tiles by introducing higher residual stresses thus requiring a different approach in the cutting.

When examining different technical properties of different makes of tiles, we find that both low water absorption and tile thickness result in a high Module of Rupture or Breaking Stress, making tiles more resilient to cutting.

Such factors are often ignored by tilers whom by continuing to use the 'Score & Snap' methods induce extra stress in the vitrified tile body, causing crack and deviation in the cuts. 'Score & Snap' tools are more dedicated to cut Gres Tiles, these are porcelain tiles with higher water absorption. Meaning with lower breaking point. For such reason, the use of a Wet Saw is a must in most of the case when working with high quality and large size tiles.

The Alabastro Ash has a very low Water Absorption (0.03%), high Flexural Strength (52.6N/mm<sup>2</sup>) and high Breaking Stress (3298N) all quality required for a 1<sup>st</sup> grade tile as specified on the Australian Standards.

Yours Sincerely

**Gianni Pallotti**

Product and Technical Manager

