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Mosaic products appeared to be a huge trend at Cersaie this year. Unlike previous visits to Cersaie, whereby mosaic products were relatively limited to mosaic-specific manufacturers, this year's exhibition saw a considerable number of tile manufacturers incorporating mosaic detail on to tile planks – removing the need for traditional tesserae. Czech manufacturer **RAKO**, and Italian **Ceramiche Supergres**, perfected the trend in the former's *Optica* range and the latter's *Swing* collection.

SICIS' stand, as always, was an opulent affair and featured intricate mosaic detail on its new decadent shoe-bath format. Its vast range of mosaic can be utilised to fit in with many of the main trend themes this year with a variety of installation options: florals, oriental influences, bright colours, geometric design and aspects of shimmering metallics truly bolsters the company's design versatility.

Gardenia Orchidea, manufacturer of the Versace Home line and popular *Onice* collection, remained consistent this year – refinement was the key to its product range as opposed to brash reinvention.

Spanish manufacturer **Grespania's** *Orinoco* range was of particular interest, offering an unusual and creative design to the market. Chris Wright, the UK's sales manager for **Grespania**, commented to *Tile UK* that the Spanish company's design policy is exceptionally adventurous – and it is fair to say that this is certainly one of the manufacturer's strengths.

In its traditional Mosaico range, **Casa Piu** offered an unusual and typically Mediterranean offering to the marketplace – its potential within

the UK could be rather limited, but is sure to be a success within the European region.

The 5mm format

However, the real talk at Cersaie was the introduction of the 5mm tile by a majority of cutting-edge brands. Originally launched to the market at Cersaie last year in **System's** 3mm *Laminam* offering, the concept exploded this year and has been imitated, refined and styled by countless companies to provide a still-incredibly thin 5mm thickness.

Cersaie's reputation for offering the most comprehensive range of tile manufacturers and companies – from handmade tiles to designer brands – is a key aspect of its strength in the exhibition market, and this year proved no exception. Notable advances in technology could be seen all over: **GranitiFiandre** introduced a new antibacterial tile; **Thai Ceramics'** *Cotto* range offers a similar surface solution to meet with the demand for quite literal clean living.

Ultimately, from florals to metallics, bold statement pieces to traditional handmade tiles, there was a fitting solution for all interior design requirements. All in all, it is this sheer diversity of products on show that reinforces Cersaie's importance on the industry calendar.

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Clockwise from top left:
Reflex from **EgeSeramik**.
Eternal from **Ceramica Latina**.
Paradise from **Edilcouoghi**.
Mix from **Cris Design**.

