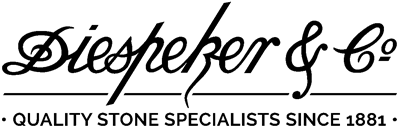
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Press Release with Pictures for immediate release

**22nd February 2023**

**STARTS**

**Diespeker makes major investment to support continuing growth**

Natural stone and terrazzo specialist Diespeker & Co has embarked on an upgrade and extension of its South East London premises.

The estimated £2.5M investment underlines the company’s commitment to remaining in South Bermondsey, where it has been located for over 35 years since moving from Diespeker Wharf in North London. It reflects a continued upward trend in business which has seen a 150% turnover increase over the past five years.

Planned works include a refurbishment of the factory to improve efficiency and increase capacity. This includes a restructure to the layout, with internal walls removed to facilitate a more streamlined, open plan factory process. New factory equipment to be installed includes a CNC machine, saws and polishing machine plus an enhanced dust extraction system.

At the same time, the main building is to receive an overhaul. Initially the existing roof is being removed and replaced with a temporary one to allow for an extension to the top floor outward over the factory roof and the existing roadside parking area to provide an extra 400 to 450sqm of space.

The façade itself is to receive a makeover based on Art Deco designs of the 1920s with KHA Architects on board to oversee this element of the refurbishment. Construction will be undertaken in-house using a variety of natural stone as well as Diespeker’s latest bespoke material Rubblazzo which reuses rubble from London.

With solar panels providing electricity for the factory and recycled water from the roof being used in the factory processes, Diespeker hopes to lead the way in a sector not best known for good eco-credentials.

The work is scheduled to take between two to three years and has been planned to minimise impact on client projects as both factory and office operations continue as normal.

Diespeker Managing Director, John Krause says “While moving to an out-of-town, purpose-built premises was considered momentarily, Diespeker has strong roots in the area and ties with many local businesses including fabricators. It’s also accessible to core clients such as architects and designers.

“Additionally, with this investment we are making a solid pledge to providing ongoing employment in this area of South East London. This development really cements our place at the forefront of our industry and lays the foundations for the coming decades at Diespeker.”

**ENDS**

**Images**

Diespeker MD John Krause (credit Diespeker)

Sketches of proposed building design (credit Diespeker)

Existing yard area (credit Marcus Bayer)

**Notes**

Diespeker & Co is a specialist supplier of natural stone and man-made materials for flooring, tiles, cladding, worktops and treads, for the commercial and domestic sectors.

The company was founded in 1881 in Hamburg and expanded into London where it was one of the first companies to offer terrazzo and mosaic to the UK market.

Diespeker offers a rare service at its factory in South East London where traditional hand-casting skills are employed to create bespoke designs. This enables the company to also match existing materials for refurbishment projects. The factory boasts the latest in Italian cutting and polishing machinery, as well as an impressive showroom displaying over 500 standard tile designs.

Standard materials are imported from trusted suppliers in Italy where they can be cut to a much thinner finish than in the UK if required. The full service includes site surveys, technical support, drawing, supply and installation and an exceptional aftercare package.

Diespeker has supplied and installed standard and bespoke solutions for numerous prestigious clients as The Royal Academy, Soho House, V&A, Harrods, Paul Smith. Our work has appeared in several TV programmes such as Your Home Made Perfect and Extraordinary Extensions.

[www.diespeker.co.uk](http://www.diespeker.co.uk)