

Biofabrique Vienna: Wiener Fliese / Vienna Tile

A project by the Vienna Business Agency

With the development of the Wiener Fliese, Biofabrique Vienna demonstrates how previously unused excavated material from the U2xU5 public transit expansion project can be transformed into a new product. The goal is to develop a locally produced tile that is both aesthetically appealing and meets the high technical requirements for outdoor use.

The bioregional agency, along with artists Anna Riess and Marie Janssen, were commissioned to conduct the research and testing. The project is supervised by Jan Boelen. The research project is being carried out in close collaboration with Wiener Linien GmbH & Co KG as the principal partner, supported by Wiener Stadtwerke GmbH.

The research is based on Wiener Tegel, the clay excavated from the U2/U5 construction sites. To meet industrial production standards, formulations with various additives are being tested. These include, for example, Mica from Aspanger Bergbau und Mineralwerke GmbH & Co KG, brick rubble from the Himberg Recycling Center, and bisque firing residues from the Augarten Vienna Porcelain Manufactory.

To ensure that the Vienna tile can be used in practice in the future, it must also meet construction standards such as water resistance and high mechanical durability. Proof of compliance will be provided in close cooperation with MA 39, the testing and certification body of the City of Vienna.