

Close to the customer

since 1919

In 1919 Finnish people were living in poverty and all kinds of goods, both domestic and imported, were in short supply. Luckily, there was no shortage of inventive people who did not hesitate to establish a factory of their own and manufacture goods by themselves. This is how a company, known as Kiilto Oy, was founded.



The first Kiilto factory in Pispala, Tampere

The Technochemical Factory O/Y Santalahti was founded in Pispala, Tampere in October 1919. It manufactured shoe polishes and waxes for the shoe industry, cosmetics for chemists and varnishes and polishes for the furniture industry. In 1924 the name of the company was changed to Kiilto Oy. At that time Kiilto Oy had 500 customers altogether and Kiilto-products were known from Vaasa to Helsinki. Ever since its establishment in 1919, Kiilto has been run by Solja-family and now a representative of the 4th generation is in the Kiilto board.

Adhesive manufacturing started at the end of 1930's. In addition to adhesives, the product range included a substantial selection of 60 lacquer preparations for the furniture, building and metal industry. In the 1960's Kiilto Oy decided to focus on the adhesive manufacturing. The oldest adhesive, which is still in production, Kestokol 66, was introduced in 1966. By the year 1977 Kiilto products were sold in stores of all retail clusters in Finland.

In the early 1970's Kiilto moved to its present location, Lempäälä. "When we decided to buy 7 hectares of land in Lempäälä, we were regarded as megalomaniacs" (Antti Solja). Today Kiilto Kukonahde factory area totals 17 hectares. All operations - raw material production and storing, product manufacturing and storing, dispatching, R&D, quality control, marketing, customer training and administration - are centralized under the same roof in Lempäälä.

All products we manufacture are results of our own, in-house R&D activity. The high domestic content of our production is enabled by our own polymerization facilities that produce most of the raw materials for our water-dilutable adhesives. In 90 years the small factory manufacturing lacquers, hair colognes and shoe creams has grown into a leading company in adhesive production and marketing in Finland. In addition to adhesives, Kiilto's product range today includes smoothing compounds, water proofing membranes, joint mortars, sealing compounds, cementitious adhesives, sealants, parquet lacquers and foundry resins.

The corner stones of our business - customer orientation, innovativeness, domesticity, environmental and humane issues - enable us to respond to constantly evolving challenges. The strength that pushes us forward is the spirit of entrepreneurship that originates from the long traditions and high competence - from strong in-house expertise. We engage ourselves to constant development and set our goals always higher - we want to provide more functional, sustainable, cost-effective and safe product solutions to our customers.

The loyalty of our longstanding customers is a display of trust towards our company and we appreciate it highly. We here at Kiilto Oy are very grateful and proud of our personnel as well as our customers.



Today Kiilto factory site in Lempäälä covers 17 hectares and the total area of the buildings is 36 800 m².