

Acimga's General Meeting, elected 4 new board members

*In 2019 the printing, packaging and converting machinery sector closes with a slight decline.
2020 is negative, but 2021 will be on the rise*

An Associates' meeting online, but as always with high attendance. Acimga (Italian Manufacturers Association of Machinery for the Graphic, Converting and Paper industry) brings together associates via web to elect 4 new board members, the arbitrators, the auditors, and illustrate the sector's balance for 2019, discussing prospects for the next two years. From today, Saverio Lombardini (ImS Technologies), Giorgio Petratto (Petratto), Andrea Dallavalle (Koenig & Bauer), Emilio Della Torre (Simec Group) will seat in the General Council, in addition to President Aldo Peretti and the vice presidents, as well as past presidents and representatives from the product groups (rotogravure, non-woven, tissue, and corrugated cardboard).

The industry closes 2019 with a decrease of 1.6% compared to 2018, a year that ended with a positive figure of 5.6%. The sector was penalised by a contraction in exports (-8.5%), while national deliveries held strong, growing almost 11 points (10.9%). The industry again confirms a strong export tendency in 2019, with 60% of sales deriving from international sales. Looking at the future, 2020 for the Italian sector will close with a negative number, due to Covid-19. The value of production (a parameter differing from that of turnover, used for Acimga's study centre projections based on data from the International Monetary Fund, historical data from UN Comtrade, Eurostat and the US Census Bureau) will fall by 14.8%, to rise again by 7.4 percentage points in 2021. In terms of turnover, however, we expect to see a decrease by 20-25% this year, in line with the other machine production sectors in Italy. This trend will actually regard all global trade in printing, packaging and converting machines, falling, in production value, by 12.9% in 2020 and rising by 9.2% in 2021.

"Even though ours was listed among the essential industry segments and therefore allowed to continue work and production, – explains Acimga's president Aldo Peretti – lockdown has still shut borders, penalizing a sector like ours that exports most of production. But our association didn't stand still. This year's Print4All Conference, focused on smart manufacturing and sustainability, was an international appointment for the whole supply chain, allowing all the players to take stock of the situation and start again. We also announced the new dates of the Print4All fair (May 3-6, 2022 again part of The Innovation Alliance), ready for the future. With this in mind we will continue to engage in Industry 4.0's training and, at the same time, develop and promote our technologies with product groups (rotogravure - non woven – tissue – corrugated cardboard). The next scheduled event is Roto4All, the first Italian event on rotogravure held in Florence on October 23rd. In the meantime, we are expanding our strategic collaborations; we joined Intergraf (the European federation for print and digital communication) and we



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are continuing our commitment within Federmacchine and Federazione Carta e Grafica, while also working in collaboration with Argi - National Association of Graphics Industry Suppliers, our partners in the Print4All trade show. I thank all of the Acimga members, who always show great participation and commitment in membership life, and I wish all the best to the new board members, with whom it will be a pleasure to work with for the benefit of our industry."

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