



Important award made to the founder and Managing Director of Biesse

THE UNIVERSITY OF URBINO AWARDS AN HONORARY DEGREE IN ECONOMY TO GIANCARLO SELCI

Urbino, February 8, 2007- Urbino's "Carlo Bo" University has today awarded the industrialist **Giancarlo Selci** with an honorary degree in Economy.

Giancarlo Selci is the **founder and current Managing Director of Biesse S.p.A**, a company based in Pesaro and listed in the **STAR Segment of the Italian Stock Exchange**, among the world leaders in the field of wood, glass and marble working machinery and systems.

By awarding this degree, Urbino University intends to recognise the essential contribution provided by G. Selci in improving the growth of the Pesaro mechanical sector, through the creation of innovative machines that have "revolutionised" the furniture industry, and enhancement of business culture.

The ceremony will be presided over by the Dean, Giovanni Bagliolo, and the Head of the Economy Department, Giancarlo Ferrero who, together with the teaching staff, put forward the proposal for this award.

The Dean, in proffering his laudation, underlined the fact that "*Giancarlo Selci is a symbolic example of the qualities of that class of businessmen who have, over the past forty years, successfully lead the expansion and growth of small and medium industry in Italy*".

Selci has always worked in the conviction that innovation is an essential factor on which to base the success of a business. This has been joined by a special care for the quality of products and processes, and great attention and open-mindedness towards foreign markets. These qualities have enabled him to guide the Biesse development process, transforming the company from a small local business into a large multinational group, among the most important in its areas of activity.

This desire to encourage development of the business culture and pass it on to the younger generation is at the centre of the *Fondazione Selci* (Selci Foundation), an institution born in 1998 with the aim of promoting and developing initiatives to investigate and extend the economic, scientific and social culture in Italy and abroad. During recent years the Foundation has promoted a number of cultural initiatives, attended by Nobel prize winners such as Rita Levi Montalcini and Dario Fo, and created scholarships and highly specialised training courses.

Giancarlo Selci commented: "*For me, this degree is an important recognition of my passion for my work during all these years. The ingredients in my life are simple ones: courage, determination and sense of responsibility. I am certain that I have passed these values on to those close to me.*"





Giancarlo Selci, born in **1936** in Pesaro, was hired at 15 years of age as an apprentice turner at the Benelli works, a motorcycle manufacturer then in full growth which was shortly to become one of the most brand prestigious names in Italy. After leaving Benelli in the **early Sixties**, he founded the company Giancarlo Selci &C, at that time the best equipped workshop in Pesaro, specialising in third party machining of mechanical components, and within a very short time became a supplier for Otomelara, the Fiat group, Benelli itself, Sima and Aermacchi. In **1968** he began to design and build his first woodworking machines. He perfected the first prototype of the multiple boring machine, destined to cause shock waves in the furniture industry, which at that time was growing strongly. The success of his idea encouraged him, in **1969**, to found a company so that he could mass-produce it: this was Biesse. The company produces woodworking machines, and in particular boring machines. In **1977** he designed and built - the first in the world to do so - a numerical control line boring machine, the Logic Control. In **1987**, taking advantage of the technology in use in woodworking machinery, he applied the same concepts to a new sector, that of flat glass working machines. A new company was born, Intermac, now a well-known name world-wide in the glass and stone working sector. During the first half of the **Nineties**, with the help of his son Roberto, he promoted and strengthened Biesse's presence abroad, creating commercial branches (in America, Canada, the United Kingdom and Asia), extending the range of machines produced (panel saws, machines for assembly and packaging, for automation and movement within the furniture-making industry, for edgbanding and trimming operations), also entering other technologically similar markets (he founded HSD to design, manufacture and sell electronic and electromechanical components; Intermac entered the marble working sector with the production of machines to process sheets of marble and granite).

The **Biesse Group** operates in the market of machinery and systems involved in processing wood, glass and marble. The Company offers modular solutions that range from the design of turnkey systems for large furniture manufacturers to individual automatic machines and workstations for small- and medium-sized companies, to the design and sale of individual high-tech components.

Thanks to its orientation towards innovation and research, Biesse is able to develop products and modular solutions that can meet the varied needs of a broad customer base.

As a multinational, the Biesse Group markets its products through a network of subsidiaries and 18 branch offices located in strategic markets.

The branch offices ensure specialised after-sales service to the customers, while also carrying out market research aimed at developing new products. The Biesse Group has seven manufacturing sites located in Pesaro, Alzate Brianza, Bergamo, Turin, Lugo (RA) and 18 branch offices in Europe, North America, Asia and Oceania.

In June 2001 it was first listed on the Stock Exchange. Today, Biesse is an international reality with a consolidated turnover expected to exceed 395 million Euro and a staff of 2,070, of which approximately 1,500 in the province of Pesaro and Urbino alone.

For further information:

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