



PRESS RELEASE

Biesse approves the third-quarter results for 2001

Biesse, one of the world's leading players in the market of machinery and systems for working wood, glass and marble, closed the third quarter with a value of production of L 537.8 billion*

Pesaro, 14 November 2001 – The Board of Directors of Biesse, the Pesaro company that has been listed for trading in the Star segment of the Italian stock exchange since last 22 June, approved the financial statements for the first nine months of 2001.

In the nine-month period, the value of production reached L 537.8 billion* with a gross operating profit of L 37 billion*, for 6.9% of the value of production*.

Operating profit reached L 20.7 billion, equal to 3.9% of the value of production*, while net indebtedness amounted to L 126.9 billion.

“In the first nine months of 2001, when the declining growth prospects in North America led to a slowdown in the world economy, Biesse recorded a positive trend in orders from the mediterranean area – in particular from the domestic market and the markets of Eastern Europe and the Far East,” stated Piero Valentini, CEO of Biesse SpA.

Valentini went on to add that *“the renewed confidence in the international economy will enable the reference sector, and Biesse in particular, to continue its historic growth trend, especially in the field of high-tech machinery – in which Biesse is a market leader and that represents the driving force for the entire industry”*.

* As provided for by Consob regulations, a comparison with the same period of the previous year is not provided as this is the first year of application.

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 work stations for small- and medium-sized companies, to the design and sale of individual high-tech components.

Thanks to its orientation towards innovation and research, over the years Biesse has perfected a highly efficient manufacturing process capable of developing products and modular solutions that can meet the varied needs of a broad customer base.

A multinational with production plants in Italy and Austria, the Biesse Group markets its products through a network of subsidiaries and 19 branch offices located in strategic markets. The branch offices ensure specialised after-sales service to the customers, while also developing and carrying out feasibility studies and market research aimed at developing new products.

The Biesse Group has a staff of 2,215 distributed among its six manufacturing sites located in Pesaro, Bergamo, Turin, Alfonsine (RA), Schwarzach (Austria) and Altsch (Austria) and its branch offices in Europe, North and South America, and Asia.