



Biesse takes over the digital-control sector from CNI S.r.l

The company, which specialises in designing and producing digital controls (software and hardware for machine-tool automation), will allow Biesse to bolster its Mechatronics Division and expand the control of strategic technologies to new applications.

Pesaro, 31 October 2001 - Biesse, the Pesaro-based company that has been listed for trading in the Star segment of the Italian Stock Exchange since 22 June of this year and is the world's fourth-ranked producer of machinery and systems for working wood, glass and marble, signed an agreement late yesterday to take over a line of business from CNI Srl, a company in Emilia-Romagna that has 25 years of specialised experience in designing and producing digital-control equipment for machine tools (wood- and glass-working machines, shoe-making machines, packaging equipment, automated warehouse management and mechanical workmanship in general).

The value of the takeover has been estimated at L3.7 billion, will be finalised upon completion of the audit being conducted on the company, and will be paid cash.

CNI has a staff of about 50 employees, many of whom are engineers and technical specialists in the field of industrial automation. The company has two facilities in Emilia Romagna and ended the year 2000 with a turnover of L12.6 billion (Ebit L1.4 billion).

The takeover will allow Biesse to bolster its Mechatronics Division, a structure that focuses on designing and producing high-precision high-tech components. It is characterised by high growth rates and will also extend the application of these technologies to new sectors.

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 2,165 distributed among its five manufacturing sites located in Pesaro, Bergamo, Turin, Schwarzach and Altsch (Austria) and its branch offices in Europe, North and South America, and Asia.