

**The Head of State has today
recognised the founder of Biesse**

**GIANCARLO SELCI IS MADE
CAVALIERE DEL LAVORO**

Pesaro 30 October 2008 – Giancarlo Selci, founder and current Managing Director of Biesse, was this morning made a Cavaliere del Lavoro by Giorgio Napolitano, the President of the Republic. The award ceremony for the honour “Al merito del Lavoro” given to those Cavalieri del Lavoro in the honours list of the Feast of the Republic on 2 June, took place at the Quirinal Palace before, amongst others, the Presidents of the Senate and the Lower Chamber, Renato Schifani and Gianfranco Fini; the Minister for Economic Development, Claudio Scajola; the Vice President of the Constitutional Court, Giovanni Maria Flick; the Under Secretary of State to the President of the Cabinet, Gianni Letta; the Managing Council of the National Federation of Cavalieri del Lavoro; and other authorities. Together with conferral of the honour, Mr Selci was also awarded the Medal of the President of the Republic.

President Napolitano stated that the Cavalieri del Lavoro represent, *“people that personify the dynamism and social activities of the business world. Everywhere I have found persons nurtured and developed by Italian enterprise. It has given me great satisfaction to see how the work of Italians and the tradition and capabilities they embody are appreciated.”*

Giancarlo Selci stated: *“It is an honour for me to receive this important recognition of the work that, over the years, I have carried out with courage, determination and a sense of responsibility. Today, these same values must be rediscovered and communicated to the young that represent the future of our country”.*

The honour is an important recognition of the contribution made by Giancarlo Selci to the growth in mechanical engineering in the region of Pesaro through his development of innovative machinery that has revolutionized the sector and contributed to the local business culture. Giancarlo Selci has always been an iconic example of strength and business enterprise in the way he has led Biesse from a small local concern to a great multinational group, amongst the leaders in its sector, and promoted the growth of small and medium enterprises in Italy. Moreover, Mr Selci has always believed in the need to favour the development of the enterprise spirit and transmit it to young people; this he has done through the Fondazione Selci, the institute, set up in 1998, to promote and develop initiatives aimed at deepening and disseminating economic, scientific and social culture in Italy and abroad.

In the course of his successful professional career, Giancarlo Selci, has received the most prestigious personal recognition. In 1987, he was made Cavaliere al merito of the Republic and, in 1992, was made Officer of the Republic. In 1995, he was awarded the Raphael Prize from the then Rector of the Carlo BO University of Urbino. In 1998, he set up the Fondazione Biesse; on 8 February 2007, he received an honorary degree in Economy and Commerce from the Carlo Bo University of Urbino, and last June was made a Cavaliere del Lavoro.



Born in **1936** in Pesaro, at fifteen years of age **Giancarlo Selci** became an apprentice turner at the Benelli works, a growing motorcycle manufacturer that, in a few years, became one of the most prestigious brands in Italy. He left Benelli at the start of the **1960s** and founded Giancarlo Selci &C., at that time the best equipped workshop in Pesaro specialized in mechanical engineering on behalf of third parties; in a short time it became a supplier to Otomelara, Fiat, Benelli, Sima and Aermacchi. In **1968**, it started to design and develop the first wood working machines. It made the first wood working machine, a multiple automatic drilling machine, destined to revolutionise the furniture manufacturing market which, in those years, was amongst the leading economic sectors. The success of this design led Mr Selci, in **1969**, to set up a production business for the machine: Biesse. The company produces machines for working wood, in particular automatic drilling machine. In **1977** it designed and made – for the first time in the world – a numerical control line automatic drilling machine, the Logic Control. In **1987**, building on the mechanical and electronic engineering experience gained in the development of machines for wood working, it applied and adapted the technology it possessed to another great industrial sector, that of machines for working flat glass. A new company, Intermac, was set up and is now a globally recognized brand for glass working machinery. At the start of the **1990s**, the presence of Biesse abroad was expanded and strengthened by the setting up of commercial subsidiaries (in Northern Italy, the USA, Canada, the UK and Asia), by extending the range of machinery made (sectioning machinery, assembly and packaging machinery, handling and automation machinery for the furniture sector, and edgelanding and beading machinery), and by entry into technologically similar markets (HSD was set up to design, produce and market electronic and electro-mechanical components; Intermac expanded into the marble working sector, producing machines for working marble and granite slabs. Between **1997 and 2001**, Biesse received ISO 9001 certification from Rina and was listed on the STAR segment of the Milan Stock Exchange, whilst the percentage of its revenues that are exported is now regularly close to 80%. Forty-five years after starting in the business world, Giancarlo Selci, the **Managing Director of Biesse**, still communicates his enthusiasm and determination to the hundreds of colleagues with whom he works. Today with his son Roberto, Mr Selci heads a Group that has **consolidated revenues of over €465 million** and employs over **2,400 people**.

The Biesse Group

Biesse operates in the market for machinery and systems for working wood, glass, marble and stone. Founded in Pesaro in 1969 by Giancarlo Selci, Biesse S.p.A. has been listed on the STAR sector of Borsa Italiana since 2001.

The Company offers modular solutions from the design of turnkey plants for large furniture manufacturers to individual automatic machines and work stations for small and medium enterprises and the design and distribution of single highly technological components.

As a result of its attention to research and innovation, Biesse can develop modular products and solutions capable of responding to a vast range of requirements from clients. A multinational company, the Biesse Group distributes its products through a network of subsidiaries and 18 associates located in strategic markets.

The associates guarantee specialized post-sales assistance to clients whilst at the same time carrying out market research in order to develop new products. The Biesse Group has over 2,400 employees in its main production sites in Pesaro, Novafeltria, Alzate Brianza, and Bergamo, Turin, Ravenna, Bangalore and the 26 associates / branch offices in Europe, North America, Asia and Australasia. The Group also has no less than 300 resellers and agents which enable it to cover more than 100 countries.

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