

COMUNICATO STAMPA

Bio-on and GIMA TT create a new company for the development and production of innovative materials for the tobacco world.

- The new company **AMT Labs S.p.A. (Advanced Materials Tobacco Labs)** has been created by **Bio-on S.p.A.** and is **20% owned by Gima TT**;
- The objective of **Bio-on and GimaTT** is to study and develop new materials for the tobacco world which, thanks to **Bio-on** technology, will be **eco-sustainable and 100% biodegradable**.

Bologna, 31 May 2018 – **Bio-on S.p.A.**, listed on the **AIM** segment of the **Italian Stock Market - Borsa Italiana** and active in the sector of bioplastic of high quality, organic and biodegradable at 100%, announces the creation of **AMT Labs S.p.A.**, NEWCO dedicated to the study, development and production of innovative materials for the tobacco world. **AMT Labs** company founded by **Bio-on S.p.A.** and capitalised with **10 million euros** today sees the entry of **GimaTT**, with a 20% share for an investment of **2.2 million euros**. **GimaTT** is a leader in the design and assembly of automatic machines on electronic basis for the packaging of products derived from tobacco and, in particular, those of new generation at reduced risk. **Gima TT** is controlled by **IMA S.p.A.** and is listed on the Star segment of the Italian Stock Exchange since October 2017.

*"I am extremely satisfied to share this important challenge with **Gima TT** – explains **Marco Astorri, CEO of Bio-on S.p.A.** - Being able to study and develop new materials for the world of packaging and tobacco through the technology set up by **Bio-on** allows us to imagine a future full of interesting innovations".*

Professor Mauro Comes Franchini, Bio-on's Chief Scientific Advisor, adds: *"The tobacco market is rapidly changing and the low risk cigarette sector is the protagonist of a strong innovation that will lead in the next few years to the development of a wide range of innovative materials that have never been used until now. Sustainability is confirmed to be a priority issue in every sector".*

All the **PHA bioplastics (polyhydroxyalkanoates)** developed by **Bio-on**, are made from renewable plant sources with no competition with food supply chains; they can substitute many traditional polymers today obtained by petrochemical processes using hydrocarbons as raw materials; moreover, they guarantee the same thermo-mechanical properties of the traditional plastics with the advantage of being completely eco sustainable and **100% biodegradable** naturally.

AMT Labs will expand the presence of **Bio-on** and **GimaTT** also in the field of cutting-edge materials allowing the company to enter into new strategic sectors.

WEB LINK AMT LABS: www.amt-labs.it/index.php?lin=inglese



Bio-on S.p.A.

Bio-On S.p.A., an Italian Intellectual Property Company (IPC), operates in the bioplastic sector conducting applied research and development of modern bio-fermentation technologies in the field of eco-sustainable and completely naturally biodegradable materials. In particular, Bio-On develops industrial applications through the creation of product characterisations, components and plastic items. Since February 2015, Bio-On S.p.A. has also been operating in the development of natural and sustainable chemicals for the future. Bio-On has developed an exclusive process for the production of a family of polymers called PHAs (polyhydroxyalkanoates) from agricultural waste (including molasses and sugar cane and sugar beet syrups). The bioplastic produced in this way is able to replace the main families of traditional plastics in terms of performance, thermo-mechanical properties and versatility. Bio-On PHAs is a bioplastic that can be classified as 100% natural and completely biodegradable: this has been certified by Vincotte and by USDA (United States Department of Agriculture). The Issuer's strategy envisages the marketing of licenses for PHAs production and related ancillary services, the development of R&D (also through new collaborations with universities, research centres and industrial partners), as well as the realisation of industrial plants designed by Bio-On.

www.bio-on.it

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Founded in 2012, Gima TT is a leader in the design and assembly of automatic machines on an electronic basis for the packaging of products derived from tobacco and in particular those of new generation with reduced risk (reduced-risk-products). GIMA TT is controlled by IMA S.p.A. for 60.084%.

The company, based in Ozzano dell'Emilia (Bologna), closed 2017 with preliminary revenues of € 151.8 million and a workforce of 138 employees. GIMA TT made its debut on 2 October 2017 on the STAR segment of the Italian Stock Market of Borsa Italiana.

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