



**THE BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF PRIMA INDUSTRIE AND SALVAGNINI,
RANKING AMONG THE MAIN ITALIAN MACHINE TOOLS MANUFACTURERS,
APPROVE A WIDE R&D AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT**

Torino, Italy, July 8, 2004 — Prima Industrie S.p.A. and Salvagnini B.v. have signed today a Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate in the design and distribution of products, with the objective of significantly increasing the rate of technological innovation and to provide customers worldwide with a wider variety of manufacturing equipments.

Prima Industrie and Salvagnini will pursue a synergic cooperation in Research & Development to allow the two companies to keep their leadership position in their respective markets and to bring effectively to their customer base high quality and innovative products.

The two companies have sales, applications and customer care facilities in the U.S., Japan, Germany, Italy, France, U.K., Spain, The Netherlands, Sweden, China and South Korea.

The cooperation in the distribution networks foresees that respective subsidiaries, branch offices, distributors and agents worldwide may promote the product lines of both companies.

The Agreement will be strengthened by the appointment of the C.E.O. of each Company as a member of the Board of Directors of the respective partner.

About Prima Industrie

Prima Industrie is a leading worldwide player in the laser processing machinery market. With €95 millions in sales, Prima Industrie is the third largest Italian machine tool company. With an installed base of 1500 machines and 1000 customers in 40 countries, the brand Prima Industrie is acknowledged as a leader in 3-dimensional and 2-dimensional laser processing solutions for cutting, welding and drilling applications. The main market segments for Prima Industrie are the automotive, aerospace, energy, agricultural and construction machines, the automotive and aerospace tier suppliers and laser job shops.

Prima Industrie is a public Company (listed since 1999 on the *Nuovo Mercato - TechSTAR segment* of the Italian Stock Exchange) with headquarters in Collegno (Torino), Italy.

More information on www.primaindustrie.com

About Salvagnini

Salvagnini is a leading worldwide player for its sheet metal manufacturing solutions and for its capabilities in integrating manufacturing processes. With €132 millions in sales, Salvagnini is the largest Italian machine tools company. With an installed base of 2500 systems and 1500 customers in 40 countries, Salvagnini is credited with inventing panel bender technology and acknowledged as a leader in sheet metal punching, shearing, cutting, bending and automated sheet metal and plate manipulation solutions, plus in integrated logistic solutions with a full range of high-performance software packages.

Salvagnini is a private Company with headquarters in Amsterdam (The Netherlands) and main operations in Sarego (Vicenza), Italy.

More information on www.salvagnini.com.

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