



#### **INDUSTRY 4.0: GUALA CLOSURES GROUP SPEEDS UP SMART MANUFACTURING**

**Objective: to improve production line efficiency, increase quality, generate less scrap, and save water and energy**

Spinetta Marengo (AL), 27 April 2021 - Technological innovation and digitalisation of production, efficient production lines, quality control and improvement, scrap reduction and water and energy savings. These are the cornerstones of the industrial plan of Guala Closures Group, the Italian multinational, world leading manufacturer of closures for alcoholic beverages and food, which has implemented an industry 4.0 integrated management system at its plant in Spinetta Marengo, the Group's headquarters, able to monitor all stages of the supply chain in real time: from the use of raw material to the shipment of the closure to the customer.

Another step forward in the industry 4.0 process already launched by the Group years ago, which today with *Iris* -the name given to the software developed entirely in-house- will give a further boost to the entire supply chain of the production system, with a process that starts with the Spinetta Marengo plant, where it is able to interconnect 150 machines, and which will be extended to the Termoli, Magenta and 27 other plants worldwide. Sensors and data analysis will provide plant managers with corrective suggestions to further increase product quality, substantially focusing on energy and water saving and reducing scrap, in line with the Group's key sustainability principles.

"We immediately recognised the potential of Industry 4.0 - states **Marco Giovannini, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Guala Closures Group** - and as industry leader, we can consider ourselves pioneers in this sphere. We have never stopped investing in technology, even during the Covid-19 emergency, as we know that the digitalisation of production plants and their connectivity are the drivers of competitiveness. The implementation of automation and industrial control systems in our production plants is part of a wider digital transformation project launched years ago, which has involved and will increasingly involve all our workers, because the only way to fully exploit the potential of Industry 4.0 is for man to interact perfectly with machines therefore creating sustainable value for the Group's stakeholders as a whole".

"We have implemented the integrated management system in the Spinetta Marengo plant - says **Federico Donato, General Manager BU Italy** - focusing on internal resources and providing over 80 hours of training to 150 employees. The implementation of the system will enable useful information to be obtained that translates into effective corrective action to optimise the entire production process, reduce scrap, increase the OEE of the lines and guarantee a high level of product quality. In 2021, we will be able to produce over one billion closures at Spinetta Marengo".

## **Guala Closures Group**

*Guala Closures Group has more than 4,850 employees and operates in 5 continents through 30 production plants and markets its products in over 100 countries. The Group sells over 17.3 billion closures each year with a 2020 turnover of 572 million Euros. Thanks to a policy of continuous business development and technological innovation, the Group is recognized as a global benchmark in the production of alcohol safety closures and is a leading manufacturer of aluminium closures for spirits, wines and beverages.*

*From August 2018, Guala Closures S.p.A. has been listed on the STAR segment of the Italian Stock Exchange, entering the FTSE Italia Mid Cap index in September 2019.*

*Find out more on [www.qualaclosures.com](http://www.qualaclosures.com)*

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