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# Press Release

22nd January 2024

**Best Tech Awards presentation: visitors agree the best technologies displayed at VITRUM 2023 were by Tecnovati Com, Softsolution, Adelio Lattuada and Forel. GIMAV meeting: news about the next edition coming soon.**

*The awards ceremony for the categories “Flat Glass Technologies”, “Robots & Automation”, “Software, Virtual Reality & Artificial Intelligence” and “Accessories, Components & Other Glass Technologies” was held Wednesday morning in Milan. In the afternoon, the GIMAV meeting on the future of VITRUM.*

Milan, 22 January 2024 – Held on Wednesday, 17th January in Milan, the VITRUM Best Tech Awards ceremony honoring the companies that, based on visitor votes, exhibited the most powerful and innovative technologies at the 2023 edition.

Welcoming the online audience and those present in person at the venue were **GIMAV Managing Director and Vice President Nicola Lattuada**, along with CEO, **Fabrizio Cattaneo**. They were followed by greetings and introductory comments by VITRUM and GIMAV President **Dino Zandonella Necca** who, connected remotely because unable to attend in person, commented: *“I am extremely proud of this initiative because it emphasizes the technological aspect that sets VITRUM apart and reinforces its reputation as a key international venue at which to showcase the excellence of glass processing machines and accessories. In the last few years, there has been much debate over trade shows, but technologies are constantly evolving in order to keep pace with innovation and changing times. This is why we believe that exhibits at the physical trade show are essential to allow visitors to experience them “hands-on.”*

The ceremony continued with presentation of the Best Tech Awards.

In the **“Accessories, Components & Other Glass Technologies”** category, Nicola Lattuada presented the award to **Leonardo Ghizzani CEO of Tecnovati Com**: *“Professionally, we are proud of the recognition accorded to a valuable product like Tecno Sunblock and of Tecnovati’s commitment to introducing innovative, green products to the marketplace that look to the future, improving comfort, along with significant energy savings,”* stated Ghizzani, illustrating the technology presented for the very first time in Europe at VITRUM 2023. *“Tecno Sunblock is thermochromic glass that blocks the heat of direct sunlight, changing the glass from transparent to opaline as the temperature increases, without the need for any manual or electrical input. We carefully researched and designed the product and its characteristics to ensure its quality and reliability before concluding an exclusive European distribution agreement.”*

*“We would like to express our sincere gratitude for the prestigious Best Tech Award,”* remarked **Jonas Pfannenstill, International Sales Manager of Softsolution**, while accepting the **Software, Virtual Reality and Artificial Intelligence** category award. *“The state-of-the-art technology exhibited at VITRUM 2023 introduces innovative software functionalities*

*that redefine the standard for the most relevant quality aspects of glass products. This award acknowledges our commitment to technological progress and underscores our leadership position in the industry. Our customers especially appreciate the scanner's AI functionality, which constantly adapts the method of categorization based on user feedback. We would like to thank them for their ongoing support which drives us to further improve our technology and to maintain a leadership position in the constantly evolving landscape of flat glass software."*

In the **Robots & Automation category**, the Best Tech Award was presented by Board Member Barbara Mazza to **Nicola Lattuada himself, partner in Adelio Lattuada Srl**: *"We have participated in VITRUM since the very first edition and we continue to believe in it,"* stated Lattuada. *"Innovation, technology and research are essential to us, too, and we believe that VITRUM is the best place to showcase our products to customers from around the world. At VITRUM 2023, along with our partner, Knittel Glass, we exhibited a robotized line: a variable angle edging machine with 13 grinding wheels and a KUKA robot, whose unique feature is that the robot is not attached to the floor but moves at super-high speed along a dedicated track, allowing it to reach a maximum speed of 2.35 m/s. This offers a number of advantages: greater flexibility and productivity, reduced labor costs because it requires only one operator, greater safety and increased energy savings."*

Next came conferral of the Best Tech Awards in the **Flat Glass Technologies category to Riccardo Vianello, Vice President and CEO of Forel SpA**: *"I am extremely honored to receive this award, above all because it acknowledges the work of our group and at the same time, adds value to Italian technology around the world. Let's remember that glass industry technology is largely in Italy and therefore we need to leverage the power of VITRUM to exhibit it. At VITRUM, Forel displayed all eight of its patents developed during the year, including application of the thermoplastic spacer profile, which was hugely popular with the international audience. I believe that only by exhibiting the innovations at the fair,"* concluded Vianello *"will we attract and intrigue an international audience and make VITRUM great. Forel's commitment in that regard is certain to continue."*

The Best Tech Awards ceremony **concluded with presentation of a symbolic recognition of the visitors to VITRUM who, with their contribution, enlivened and made this initiative possible**. Selected to represent them were four product testimonials among those that voted for the companies awarded – they will have the opportunity to experience a Premium Glass Experience at VITRUM 2025.

In the afternoon, **during the course of the Extraordinary Meeting, GIMAV members exchanged ideas and explored possible scenarios to ensure the best future for VITRUM**.

Upon conclusion of the meeting, GIMAV CEO Fabrizio Cattaneo commented: *"Although at their first edition, the Best Tech Awards immediately gained traction, offering a further opportunity for visibility to the companies that participated in VITRUM 2023 by exhibiting their technological innovations in the fields of glass processing machines and accessories.*

*In all likelihood, we will bring back the awards at the next edition of VITRUM; speaking of which, today's discussion has been very useful and effective: more news to follow!"*

