

Il Sole 24 Ore

The mechanical engineering company at the top of the rankings

by Natascia Ronchetti

Of the 2023 Sole 24 Ore-Statista's champions of export, 30% were companies from the mechanical engineering sector, with 72% of their turnover generated by exports.

A record which eclipses the other sectors (first and foremost products for industry and foodstuffs), confirming the strength of our companies' high-tech yet tailored Italian-made products in foreign markets.

Among the engineering companies in the list, standouts include Arinox, of the Arvedi Group, Siad Macchine Impianti, Ognibene Power, Fedegari Autoclavi, then Ekosystem, Incomac, Tecno Line and Nordmeccanica.

This last company is currently in the spotlight, having inaugurated a new site in Piacenza, with the event attended by the Minister for Economy and Finance, Giancarlo Giorgetti

The site is in addition to the other three already operational in Piacenza, as well as the company's additional two plants in Shanghai, China, and New York.

The company, specialised in the production of machinery for flexible packaging, with exports totalling 95% of its turnover, has a presence in 87 countries.

"We produce between 230 and 250 machines per year," Nordmeccanica's president, Neapolitan Antonio Cerciello, tells us. This new plant will allow us to produce another thirty."

Here the company will primarily be producing two types of machines: systems for combining different materials, such as plastic films, paper and aluminium, used to produce bags for food and pharmaceuticals packaging, and metallisers for recyclable packaging.

"Paper and plastic which is 100% recyclable are the most requested materials, although the latter is making ever-more space for itself," explains Vincenzo Cerciello, one of Antonio's two sons who is the company's technical director.

With a turnover of 105 million Euros and around 300 employees, Nordmeccanica exports primarily to South-East Asia (50%) and North America (2 %). With its plant in China and a branch office in India, it controls a large portion of the Asian market. *"The international markets,"* Antonio Cerciello explains, *"are increasingly looking for the highest levels of quality as well as technical support, two factors which are essential to protect our market share abroad."*



High Technology. A machining phase at one of Nordmeccanica's plants; the company invests 5% of its turnover into R&D

30%

IN THE RANKING

Of 2023's champions of export, 30% operate in the engineering sector.