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CLERICI TESSUTO

Press Release

THE ITALIAN TEXTILE GROUP CLERICI TESSUTO FOCUSES ON ORGANIC SILK FOR THE LUXURY MARKET AND ON GENERATIONAL CHANGE

Clerici Tessuto, one of the world's most important textile companies in the luxury sector, received from ICEA, Institute for Ethical and Environmental Certification, **the GOTS certification** (Global Organic Textile Standard) **for its fine silk fabrics**.

The Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) is recognized as the world's leading processing standard for textiles made from organic fibers. The aim of the standard is to define world-wide recognized requirements that ensure organic status of textiles, from harvesting of the raw materials, through environmentally and socially responsible manufacturing up to labelling in order to provide a credible assurance to the end consumer.

The Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) is the highest standard in the world for organic fibers, internationally supported by several organizations that promote organic farming in the world: Organic Trade Association, IVN Japanese Organic Cotton Association and Soil Association.

In addition to verifying compliance with the requirements of the biological production of the entire textile chain (from cultivation to dyeing, weaving, printing, finishing, labeling and marketing of textile products), the GOTS standard assesses along the entire production chain the respect of the requirements for environmental and social responsibility, in order to assure consumers that the clothes they wear are produced not only without the use of harmful chemicals, but also in working condition ethically sustainable.

The GOTS certification obtained by Clerici Tessuto involves its entire supply chain: **Filo d'Oro, the only Italian textile supply chain now able to ensure the production of significant quantities of certified organic silk fabric**.

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Along with Clerici Tessuto, other three companies of Filo d'Oro have obtained the GOTS certification: Tintoria MCM, the dye mill Ambrogio Pessina and the printing mill Sara Ink, companies affiliates, subsidiaries or controlled by Clerici Tessuto & C. S.p.A. The production of organic cocoons is instead guaranteed by the certification of Ongetta Srl, the leading Italian importer of organic silk and the first link in the Filo d'Oro supply chain.

“Clerici Tessuto represents the excellence of Como Silk around the world and has always remained faithful to its strategy, choosing to focus on high quality silk even during periods of crisis. Today, the market presents us with new challenges and we are ready to seize them, so we decided to invest in organic silk production for high fashion, involving our entire supply chain.”
Explains Alessandro Tessuto, Group President, ***“For too long the fashion industry has been held on the margins of the debate on social and environmental sustainability, issues that should be central to an industry that involves millions of people, from farmers to manufacturers till shoppers in millions of stores around the world.”***

For the Clerici Tessuto Group 2016 was a positive year which ended with a turnover of 67 million euro (65 million in 2015). This has enabled the group to invest in digital transformation with the opening of an online store offering a wide selection and stock service of top-quality apparel fabrics (shop.newtess.com) and expand the production capacity with the purchase of several new generation looms, the enhancement of the printing mill SaraInk and the purchase of a stake in the Biellese dyeing mill Iride.

2017 opened with a change at the top of the group following the **appointment of Stefano Bernasconi as new CEO of Clerici Tessuto & C. S.p.A.**. Mr. Bernasconi has an international experience working in consulting business, a proven track record in management and has deep knowledge of the business model of the fashion industry.

The appointment of the new CEO, who has previously collaborated with Clerici Tessuto, is instrumental to the generational change taking place within the Tessuto family, sole owner of the company since it was founded in 1922 by Rachele Clerici and by her husband Alessandro Tessuto.

The new CEO will work closely with **Sara Tessuto**, the daughter of the President, who, after an international experience, has returned to the company headquarters in Como with the dual role of **Manager of the Digital channel and Communication**.

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Fabrics in organic silk



Stefano Bernasconi, *CEO*



Alessandro and Sara Tessuto,
*Group President and Manager of the Digital Channel
and Communication*

The Clerici Tessuto Group

Clerici Tessuto is one of the most important textiles manufacturers in the world for the luxury sector, with ranges for men's and women's clothing, accessories, underwear, beachwear and home furnishing.

Founded in 1922, the company now owns a complete small scale textiles production chain: weaving and warping, dye works and printing, which employs more than 300 employees, covering the entire finishing cycle of silk and other natural fibers. The company manufactures, finishes, transforms and sells more than 2.500.000 meters of fabric per year with a sales network that reaches 1,800 customers around the world, 40% in Italy, 45% in Europe, 5% in Asia and 10% in North America.

In 2016, the turnover of the overall group was € 67 million. The largest share of total revenues came from women's clothing, (€ 41 million, 65% of total revenues), followed by accessories (20% of total revenues) and home furnishing (15% of total revenues).

For more information:

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