

Press Release

Camozzi: dual initiative with the SACE SIMEST Hub (CDP Group) to grow in Italy and abroad

The Brescia-based industrial automation and machine tools group issues a € 12.5 million bond guaranteed by SACE and becomes a partner of SIMEST in China

Through the two transactions the group will be able to finance new investments in Italy and abroad and strengthen its position in high-growth markets, with positive fallout on its Italian plants

Brescia, 4 April 2018—The export and internationalization hub of the CDP Group, formed by SACE and SIMEST, supports the international development of Camozzi, a Brescia-based company in industrial automation, machine tools, textile machinery, fusions and processing as well as digital and IoT solutions. That can be possible through the subscription of a bond and through equity investment.

The Fondo Sviluppo Export, created by SACE and managed by Amundi SGR, has subscribed a € 12,5 million bond issued by Camozzi. The six-year bond is fully guaranteed by SACE and subscribed by the Fondo Sviluppo Export utilizing resources provided by SACE and by the European Investment Bank. Camozzi will utilize the proceeds from the issue to support its development in international markets, especially Ukraine, United States, China, and Russia.

SIMEST also intends to invest € 4.7 million in two companies located in China near Shanghai specialized in components for automation systems, wholly-owned by the Camozzi group. The investment will also have positive fallout in Italy, generating increased demand for the components produced in the Camozzi plants in northern Italy.

“Growth in international markets is a goal that the group has pursued since its early days in business,” declared Lodovico Camozzi, chairman of the Camozzi group. “The support of SACE and the investment by SIMEST in the Chinese companies strengthens us institutionally and financially and enables us to be even more competitive in the international markets. Today we are present with offices in 26 countries and export more than 80% of our sales to 75 countries.”

Camozzi is one of the primary clients of SACE and SIMEST in Lombardy, a region where nearly 6,000 companies are served through their Milan and Brescia offices: over € 3,5 billion in resources were mobilized in 2017 to support the international development of companies in the region.

SACE and Amundi were assisted in this initiative by the firm of Legance Avvocati Associati and Camozzi by the firm of Craca Di Carlo Guffanti Pisapia Tatozzi & Associati.

The **Camozzi group**, formed in 1964 as a company specialized in components for industrial automation, has become a leading Italian player working primarily in the design and production of pneumatic components and systems for industrial automation. The Group has launched an international growth program, diversifying its product range into high-potential sectors and promoting cross-selling activity. The group operates in over 75 countries worldwide through production facilities and sales offices.

Fondo Sviluppo Export is a fund created by SACE (CDP Group) and managed da Amundi SGR that opens the capital markets to Italian exporters and has resources of € 350 million, 175 million provided by SACE and 175 million financed by the European Investment Bank with SACE guarantee. The Fund, reserved to professional investors, is dedicated to investments in secured and unsecured bonds with fixed or floating rate coupons and redemption in installments or at maturity, issued by unlisted Italian companies with a calling in export and internationalization. The issues subscribed by the fund can finance a broad range of activities: direct investments abroad, such as mergers, acquisitions or joint ventures, R&D investments in Italy, expenditures to purchase or renew plant and machinery, and communication and marketing activities.

SACE and **SIMEST** together form the Italian export and internationalization hub of the CDP Group.

SACE, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, offers export credit services, insurance against default risk, protection of investments abroad, guarantees on loans of working capital and international development, bonding, factoring and credit recovery.

SIMEST, owned 78% by SACE and the rest by leading Italian banks and industrial associations, offers low-interest loans to support internationalization, grants in interest to support exports, and equity acquisitions.

Amundi is the largest asset manager in Europe in terms of assets under management and among the top ten¹ worldwide. With the integration of Pioneer Investments, through its principal investment centers², it now manages assets of over € 1.4 trillion³.

Amundi offers its clients in Europe, Asia-Pacific Middle East and North and South America access to distinctive expertise in the financial markets, and a complete range of investment solutions, active, passive and in real assets.

With HQ in Paris, listed on the stock exchange since November 2015, Amundi is the no. 1 asset management company in Europe in terms of market capitalization⁴.

By expanding its business and bolstering of its operating structure, Amundi can propose new instruments and services and further develop the breadth and quality of its investment solutions for its customers.

Through the distinctive research and expertise of a team of nearly 5,000 professionals and market experts in 37 countries, Amundi offers private, institutional, and corporate clients innovative investment strategies and personalized solutions for their requirements, return objectives, and risk profiles.

1 Source: IPE "Top 400 Asset Managers" published in June 2017, AUM data at 31 December 2016

2 Investment centers: Boston, Dublin, London, Milan, Paris and Tokyo

3 Amundi Data at 31 December 2017

4 Based on market capitalization data at 31 December 2017

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