



Press release

Bologna, October 16, 2003

2.4% block sold by IMA

IMA S.p.A., world leader in the production of automatic packaging machines for the pharmaceutical and tea industries, today sold a block of **850,000 of its own shares** (approximately 2.4% of capital stock) to Australian investors headed up by Hunter Hall Investment Management Ltd. The deal took place at a price of **10.80 euro per share** and will generate a capital gain of around 500,000 euro.

This disposal falls within the powers granted to the Board of Directors by the Stockholders' meeting on April 24, 2003.

Established in 1961, IMA is today the world leader in the manufacture of automatic machines for the packaging of pharmaceutical products and of tea in filter bags. The IMA Group's consolidated revenues for the **first half of 2003** came to 143.7 million euro (+5.5%) and net operating income, prior to amortization of the goodwill, amounted to 3.8 million euro. The Group has about 2,400 employees, 800 of whom overseas, and can count on five production plants in Italy, one in Germany and two in India. IMA has an extensive sales network comprising eight branches which provide sales and service in France, United Kingdom, Germany, Austria, Spain, Portugal, the United States and China, representative offices in Central and East European countries and over 50 agencies covering a total of more than 70 countries. IMA is also participating in two joint-ventures in China for production and service. IMA SpA has been listed on the Milan Stock Exchange since 1995 and has entered the STAR segment in 2001. The following companies are part of the IMA Group: Co.ma.di.s. SpA, Kilian & Co. GmbH, Libra Pharmaceutical Technologies Srl, Precision Gears Ltd. Visit our web site: www.ima.it (**Investor Relations** section).