



Press release

Bologna, 15 January 2009

IMA announces start of programme to purchase treasury shares

IMA has announced, pursuant to the resolution adopted at the Shareholders' Meeting held on 29 April 2008, that it will start its programme to purchase treasury shares with a view to stabilising the stockmarket price of its shares. This plan is to be implemented with a view to boosting liquidity.

The Shareholders' Meeting authorized the Company's Board of Directors, for a period of 12 months, to purchase in the market up to the maximum limit permitted by law, namely 10% of the share capital, taking into account the shares already held and within the limits of available reserves, including the distributable earnings shown in the latest approved financial statements, at a value equal to their average stockmarket price over the previous five days, with a difference plus or minus of not more than 10%, in order to stabilize the share price and, in general, to implement share buy-back plans with a view to raising the stock's value for the benefit of the shareholders.

There is a reasonable expectation that, over the period of this programme which will terminate on 28 April 2009, not more than 300,000 shares will be purchased for a maximum of 4.5 million euro.

The market will be informed when these various operations have been carried out, according to the terms and methods laid down in current regulations.

IMA currently holds 197,735 treasury shares, representing 0.580% of share capital.

IMA has appointed BHV, the Company's specialist, to carry out the acquisition programme.

Established in 1961, IMA is the world leader in the design and manufacture of automatic machines for the packaging of pharmaceutical products and of tea in filter bags. The Group has more than 3,000 employees, more than 1,400 of whom overseas, and can count on 17 production plants in Italy, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, the United States, India and China. IMA has an extensive sales network comprising 9 branches which provide sales and service in France, the United Kingdom, Germany, Austria, Spain, Portugal, the United States, China and Thailand, 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 one joint-venture in China for production and service. **IMA S.p.A. has been listed on the Milan Stock Exchange since 1995 and in 2001 joined the STAR segment.** The following manufacturing companies are part of the IMA Group: Co.ma.di.s. S.p.A., IMA Edwards, IMA Flavour S.r.l., IMA Kilian GmbH & Co. KG, IMA Life S.r.l., IMA Safe S.r.l., Nova Packaging Systems Inc., Precision Gears Ltd., Swiftpack Automation Ltd., Zanchetta S.r.l.

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