



Press release

Bologna, 19 February 2008

## **IMA: purchase of the other 50% of the Chinese jv Edwards Tianli Pharmaceutical Systems completed**

IMA, world leader in the production of automatic packaging machines for the pharmaceutical and tea industries, has today completed the purchase from its Chinese partner of the other 50% of the **Edwards Tianli Pharmaceutical Systems Co. Ltd.** joint-venture, which is based in Beijing and operates in the production of **freeze-drying machinery for the pharmaceutical industry.**

The price agreed for the purchase of the other 50% of the Edwards Tianli Pharmaceutical Systems Co. Ltd. joint-venture comes to 9 million euros, which have been paid at the closing date. The joint-venture closed 2007 with a turnover of around 10 million euros and an operating profit of 1.8 million euros.

**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 2 joint-ventures in China for production and service. IMA has recently acquired the freeze-drying machinery business of the **BOC Edwards Pharmaceutical Systems Group**, undisputed leader in this sector and with its main office in the Usa. IMA S.p.A. has been listed on the Milan Stock Exchange since 1995 and in 2001 joined the **STAR** segment. The following companies are part of the IMA Group: Co.ma.di.s. S.p.A., IMA Flavour S.r.l., IMA Kilian GmbH & Co. KG, IMA Libra S.r.l., IMA Safe S.r.l., Nova Packaging Systems Inc., Precision Gears Ltd., Swiftpack Automation Ltd., Zanchetta S.r.l.

For further information:

Sergio Marzo - Investor Relator - tel. +39 051 783111 - e-mail: [marzos@ima.it](mailto:marzos@ima.it)

Maria Antonia Mantovani - Press Office - tel. +39 051 6514186 - e-mail: [antonia.mantovani@ima.it](mailto:antonia.mantovani@ima.it)

[www.ima.it](http://www.ima.it) (Investor Relations section)