

Announcement to the market under art. 114 of Legislative Decree 58/1998 and art. 66 of the Regulations adopted by CONSOB Resolution 11971/1999

The Mandarin Capital Partners fund today purchased an interest in I.M.A. Industria Macchine Automatiche S.p.A. ("IMA") in a block representing 7.185% of the share capital.

Today, the Mandarin Capital Partners private equity fund bought 2,450,000 shares in IMA (7.185%) through two limited liability companies controlled by the fund.

The suspensive conditions foreseen in the purchase and sale contract signed by Mandarin Capital Partners on 27 October 2009 took place today, with the result that the contract could be implemented, with the private equity fund purchasing 2,300,000 shares in IMA, which represents 6.745% of its share capital.

This operation, which was announced to the market on 27 October 2009, led to the shares in IMA being bought by two new single-shareholder limited liability companies called Rufus S.r.l. and Morchella S.r.l., both wholly owned by the Mandarin fund, at a price of 14.50 euros per share, and therefore for a total outlay of 33,350,000 euros.

The shareholders selling their shares include a number of IMA directors, some through their own companies, as follows:

- 530,000 IMA shares have been sold by Etrusco S.r.l., a company controlled by Alberto Vacchi, IMA's Chairman and Managing Director;
- 357,900 IMA shares have been sold by Maestrale Investimenti S.r.l., a company controlled by Andrea Malagoli, IMA's CEO and a Director;
- 504,000 IMA shares have been sold by GV Finanziaria S.r.l., a company controlled by Gianluca Vacchi, a Director of IMA;
- 200,000 IMA shares have been sold by Luca Poggi, a Director of IMA.

Given the Mandarin fund's intention to increase its shareholding in IMA by purchasing further shares on the open or block market, also under a call option for up to 350,000 IMA shares to be exercised within four months, today Morchella S.r.l. used part of its own financial resources to buy another block of 150,000 IMA shares at a price of 13.20 euros per share.

As a result of these purchases, the Mandarin Capital Partners fund currently holds a total of 2,450,000 IMA shares (7.185%) through its subsidiaries, Rufus S.r.l. and Morchella S.r.l.

At the same time as these share transfers, Rufus S.r.l. and Morchella S.r.l. signed a shareholder agreement with SO.FI.M.A. S.p.A., IMA's parent company. Details of this agreement will be announced in due course as required by law.

This partnership with the Mandarin fund is of immense strategic importance as it will allow IMA to take advantage of opportunities to develop its core business by giving it greater access to the Chinese market at a time of strong growth there, in both the pharmaceutical and tea sectors.

Bologna, 3 December 2009