



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Fluiten has gained several competitive advantages thanks to its new automated warehouse**

*Space saving, quicker operations, and greater safety are some of the benefits achieved  
by its introduction*

**Milan, March 27th 2008** - Fluiten Italia S.p.A., an entirely Italian company that has worked in the rotating shaft seal sector for over forty years, has decided to invest in an extremely modern automated warehouse able to store and handle 55,000 components thanks to the sophisticated software that runs it.

Adoption of a completely automated system means several benefits for Fluiten, such as immediate part availability, a high level of cleanliness so that items are undamaged and ready for use, and greater picking speed and precision.

Computerized warehouse management has also allowed Fluiten to differentiate procedures through two dedicated systems, one for business-to-business and one for business-to-consumer. These systems are at present at the final testing stage, which involves the distributors.

In order to create this new automated warehouse, Fluiten has extended its site by purchasing a new shed. The firm has now tripled the space available and has clearly separated the production department from the service and warehouse areas. In this way, every area has plenty of room so that it complies with all safety requirements and allows for future expansion in the expectation of steady company growth.

The automated warehouse occupies a fifth of the space of a traditional warehouse, thus allowing Fluiten to optimize the shed area devoted to component storage.

The core of these innovative facilities is a computer controlled carrier which receives material movement instructions from the software. A mechanical arm picks up the items from the racks, which are divided into 3000 loading units, and takes them directly to the workstation that orders them.

Refilling is also completely automated, and this has led to a substantial improvement in warehouse staff safety. The room where the staff are found is closed and only authorized personnel is allowed access after following precise procedures.

*“We decided to invest in this project and are happy with the positive feedback. This investment follows in the wake of others which we constantly make, such as investments in research and development and investments in new staff in order to add young people to our personnel. Our company is dynamic and counts on innovative technology. Our aim is always to put quality first”,* commented Alberto Delfo Colombo, Fluiten Chairman.

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### **Fluiten Italia S.p.A.**

Fluiten is the leader in the design and manufacture of seals for rotating shafts. The entirely Italian company was founded in 1962 and is located at Pero (Milan). It employs over 100 people in its various European offices (France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany and Spain) and in Malaysia. Fluiten designs and manufactures mechanical seals in Pero, just outside Milan, which are mainly used in the chemical, petroleum and energy industries. Other important areas where Fluiten seals are used are the pharmaceutical, food, paper and marine sectors.

