



Cortem Group: Half a century of success

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Cortem S.p.A, the main company of the Cortem Group, is 50 years old. From its roots as a small Italian manufacturer, Cortem today is a group that boasts four sister companies located in Singapore, Dubai, Moscow and Buenos Aires, 10 Distribution Hubs, 250 employees and a global sales network. It is one of the main players in the explosion protection market with a turnover of around 50 million euros.

The company was founded on 24 February 1968 at Villesse in north-eastern Italy by Marco Rossi and Renato Gratton with the acronym "Cor.tem" - Construction, Electromechanical Technical Representations. From the start, there was a strong ambition to make the company first an Italian and later an international leader in the design and production of electrical equipment for environments where there is explosion or fire risk.

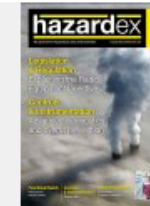
A few years later, in the 1970s, Elfit was set up to take advantage of Italian oil major ENI's downstream expansion, making a range of products complementary to lighting, such as fittings, cable glands and junction boxes for hazardous areas.

Cortem, Elfit and a third company in the same sector, Fondisonzo, joined forces in 2006 to pool resources and get to market faster and more efficiently. The Cortem Group soon became the technological reference in the field of explosion-proof systems in Italy and Europe.

Alessandro Rossi, a partner and chairman of the Board of Directors, takes up the story:

"The last fifty years have been a long road, started by my father Marco and his partner Renato in the late 60s. Today, in the wake of that ambitious project, the second generation has picked up the baton and with great determination faces up to multinationals in the same sector with far greater resources on a daily basis.

"We have become 'a pocket multinational' by taking the best traditions and transforming them to create a special corporate culture that enhances our people and their work. This means we are in a strong position to face the next fifty years in an increasingly frenetic and demanding market".



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Cortem's headquarters today

'Think globally, act locally' has always been a core concept for the Group, and this has underpinned its dynamic expansion around the world, with both commercial activities and product assembly devolved to branches abroad.

In addition to the continuous effort in the research and development of innovative quality products compliant to international standards, great attention has always been paid to customised and engineered solutions in perfect "MADE IN ITALY" style.

Cortem's story is the story of an Italian company, similar to that of many other Italian companies, where the family

business model and the managerial approach came together in a winning way; a story that teaches us that, in order to achieve the right balance between tradition, growth and innovation, we need diversification and flexibility - in products, in markets, in production facilities and in response to customer needs.

"We thank all the customers who over the last half century have trusted us and helped write this special Italian story", concludes Cortem's chairman. "We also give special thanks to all our employees, without whom none of this would have been possible. They are the true corporate assets, the base on which to continue building and generating value for everybody in a lasting way".

Happy Birthday Cortem!



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