

## Third #IMAwebinars2021 held on September 23

IMA S.p.A. held its third webinar this year on September 23. It was easy to register for and view the webinar by using the company's app. The topic of the third seminar was swimwear and underwear. At the seminar, the functions of IMA S.p.A.'s latest spreading machines and automated cutting machines for swimwear and underwear were introduced.

The details of the seminar presentation are introduced below.



### **SPEECH: MIRELLA SARDINI (PRESIDENT)**

Good morning everyone and welcome to the third event of the #IMAwebinars2021 series.

The holidays are behind us. The summer has just ended, but we wanted to end the season on a high note. We have decided, for this seminar, to deal with the beachwear and underwear sectors, which, over the years, have given us great satisfaction. These sectors appear to be simple given the product types, but they actually hide great difficulties. First of all are the fabrics used and the standard quality requirements. It's not just about the aesthetics and the look of these products, it is also about the fit of the garments.

For these reasons, it has been necessary to develop increasingly innovative technological solutions over the years, in order to satisfy increasingly demanding customers.

We have once again collected some significant testimonials from our Italian and foreign customers, which obviously give us great satisfaction.

Now, I'll leave the floor to Gianpietro Rossi. He is IMA's sales manager and he has certainly played an important role in establishing the basis of a partnership with one of the world's leading Italian manufacturers of underwear, swimwear, and much more. He has certainly helped us in studying innovative solutions to help manufacturers of these product categories in their cutting room management by making them more efficient and effective, and optimizing the entire production process.

I wish you all a fruitful webinar.

### **SPEECH: GIAN PIETRO ROSSI (SALES DIRECTOR)**

Thank you Mirella for your wonderful introduction and good morning to all of you watching us. I would

like to extend a special greeting to all of our customers and collaborators from all over the world. There are so many of you today, so I greet you all with my heart and I hope to see you again soon. Now, let's get back to today's topic, a topic that in two words represents much of IMA's knowledge. This is also thanks to collaborations with the most important brands and manufacturers in this wonderful and complex sector. These partnerships have always put us in a good position, allowing us to achieve



important and significant results. The technical features of the particular fabrics of this sector were not easy for anyone. It has always been a minefield in terms of quality. And, for this reason it has been necessary to study and develop more and more evolved machinery, while at the same time delivering much better performance, thereby allowing us to reach high quality standards.

Once again IMA is able to provide dedicated concepts and solutions.

Let me now leave the floor to Giacomo and Alberto, who will give you an overview of what we have built and achieved thanks to the constant commitment and professionalism of our entire team.

Thank you and I wish you a good webinar.



### **SPEECH: GIACOMO CARBONARI (CAD DIVISION)**

Every intuition of the fashion designers of every company must be transformed first into a pattern and then into a file to be processed by the machinery in the cutting room. This transformation is carried out by the pattern department which, regardless of the fact that it is part of the company or not, links the various divisions. Every patternmaker, however, needs to be supported by CAD software, which allows him to satisfy every request of the



style office. Maxima is a complete suite of pattern-making programs created by IMA to meet the requirements of every pattern maker. The pattern editor is equipped with all of the most accurate functions, but in the case of the underwear and swimwear sectors, an important role is played by automatic nesting: the size of a pattern is often very small, so the nesting algorithm makes a difference and allows large amounts of fabric to be saved. Marker is an application of ours that allows every aspect of the nesting of pieces to be managed, enabling the selection of any type of spreading (half sheet, zig-zag, tube-shaped), drop of fabric, and safe distance between pieces with the possibility of setting the minimum percentage of efficiency required. All of these aspects are then processed by the automatic nesting algorithm, which ensures one of the highest fabric efficiencies on the market. Now, I'll leave the floor to Alberto, who will tell us something more about cutting rooms. Have a great webinar.



#### SPEECH: ALBERTO PINI (TECHNICAL SALES EXECUTIVE)

Once the pattern-making department has made all of the necessary changes, the pattern is ready to enter the cutting room where the fabric is transformed into pieces ready to be assembled. In all clothing sectors, the cutting room is the beating heart of the production process. This is particularly true in companies that produce underwear and beachwear for product types that must preserve the very high quality associated with delicate materials and extremely small pieces

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to be assembled.

IMA offers a complete range of products starting from loading a piece onto the spreader to automatic cutting. Each of our customers adopts its own working method, which is often the result of decades of experience.

The uniqueness of fabrics used in these sectors is represented by high electrostaticity, elasticity, and low weight, all of which are properties that make the fibers shrink during the laying phase (called "drop"), which, therefore, require a certain period of "relaxation" after being laid. Here, we noticed that the first big difference between companies was whether they decide to carry out this operation before or after spreading, so IMA has two different machines to carry out this operation.

The Relaxing Machine, model IMA 869, allows the fabric to be unrolled by releasing most of the tension on the fibers, which can then be rewound into a roll or a flap and be made immediately available for production. This machine is equipped with electronic control of meterage, which is carried out both before and after the unwinding operation, thus guaranteeing millimeter control of the roll's length, an aspect that customers are very sensitive to.

As a second option, the fabric can be stretched immediately with the spreader forming the traditional "mattress," but before being cut it is left to "rest" on our multi-level tables to release its tension. These are a series of conveyor tables arranged one on top of the other that allow several mattresses to be stored and snapped, and they can be moved by the operator totally automatically when needed.

Regardless of the preferred working method, IMA recommends the model 808 loader as the system for loading the pieces onto the spreader. It guarantees great handling efficiency thanks to IMA's patented self-feeding system and to the double conveyor table, both for loading and for unloading the outgoing pieces, which are automatically rewound in a sequence of up to eight or 10 pieces, depending on the diameter.

Laying has always been a distinctive feature of IMA. For this specific sector our Phoenix model 890 L version has been one of the references for this type of production for several years. Speed of spreading, precision of heads, and selvedge effect are guaranteed by technical specifications such as the double dancer positioned at the bottom, the special cutter with a "horizontal" cut optimized for these types of fabric, and the notched feeding roller and the double bar for controlling electrostaticity. These are some of the unique features that guarantee a real zero tension when spreading fabric, while also allowing the spreading of delicate tubular underwear.

Once the fabric has been stretched and all of the shrinkage has been eliminated, it is ready for labelling. The IMA Polaris 908 is a labeling machine that automatically interfaces with any kind of CAD software that recognizes the graphic of the pieces, before cutting and positioning the labels directly on the fabric without releasing any residual pieces, not even on very delicate fabrics.

After the piece recognition phase we can move on to the final process represented by automatic cutting. According to the required production numbers, we recommend two types of automatic cutting machine for the underwear and beachwear sectors to our customers: the IMA Tempest Plus 921 model for cutting compressed mattresses up to three centimeters and the IMA Typhoon 920 model for cutting up to a thickness of seven centimeters. The first guarantees

very high cutting quality even with delicate materials, while maintaining excellent production performance, also thanks to the linear speed of the blade.

This performance is possible thanks to digital suction control and to all of the software packages of the HMI Cutting Control Center and of the Cutting Optimizer, which can be considered to be a mini CAD in the machine. The 920 Typhoon is a machine in which we have also added, in addition to all of the technical specifications already mentioned of the 921, sensors for blade flexion. These allow us to control any possible incorrect inclination of the blade and adjust it in real time, guaranteeing extreme precision between first and last cut sheets. This aspect is fundamental for cuts that have a greater thickness, thus combining the quality of the three-centimeter cut with the productivity of a seven-centimeter blade.

IMA, thanks to collaboration with one of the world's leaders in the production of underwear, has also developed a line dedicated to laying and cutting padding (such as bra cups), a very delicate operation made possible by optimizing some hardware and software components of our cutting machine. This was a great result because we were able to achieve considerable productivity combined with perfect cutting quality, aspects that are difficult to achieve with a material of this kind which, when compressed, tends to lose its shape.

Companies in the underwear and beachwear sector, being aware of the high complexity of their production cycles,

are always looking for innovative technological solutions to turn their creativity into something tangible. That's why many companies in this sector, ranging from those engaged in crafts to the biggest fashion houses in the international markets, rely on professional leaders in the production of swimwear or underwear, who take care of all production phases to deliver a finished garment of excellent quality. One of these is certainly Area B, a brand that has become a leader in the sector, boasting licenses for the production of some of the most famous names in fashion. Now we have three more testimonials from IMA customers worldwide.

I wish you all a good webinar.

#### TESTIMONY: Mr. FEDERICO VENTURATO— AREA B - ITALY

Good morning,

I'm Federico Venturato, I'm the general manager and owner of Area B, a company that has been producing and distributing swimwear in Italy and Europe for 20 years. After twenty years, we have become one of the leaders in the acquisition of licenses and the production of well-known Italian and foreign brands for third parties still in the beachwear and underwear categories.

Over the last two years, the company has grown a lot compared to previous years and, clearly, like all growing companies, it needed to update and become more efficient.

A fundamental part of our production chain is the auto-



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matic cutter and spreader. These two elements allow us to spread and cut products every day, continuously, products which must then be packed and shipped.

It is a very important tool. It has to be efficient and fast, and needs to have all the necessary characteristics to satisfy an increasingly demanding client base.

Behind the technological equipment there is obviously the company that sells it to you. So, it is very, very important that

such a company has an efficient product, but with equally efficient management behind it.

We chose IMA from a shortlist of three or four candidates, because it proved to have an extremely efficient team focusing on work day after day, which is extremely well prepared and very honest when presenting a product that today, after a year of use and experience, has turned out to be absolutely in line with what we had been told.

So, we are very happy with our choice, because IMA worked with us very well before and most importantly after the sale, and this is the most important thing.

Typhoon, which is the name of the cutting machine we have chosen, is a choice that has gratified us and we are really happy to have made it.

I am saying that in this interview not because the gentlemen of IMA asked me to do so, but because I do it with pleasure because I really mean it.

I thank you all for your attention. IMA knows that whoever wants to see the machine, the tool, can come to AreaB as agreed.

Thanks you all, goodbye

#### TESTIMONY: Ms. MANOLI CAMPAYO— DOLORES CORTES—SPAIN



Hello, I am Manuela and I am Head of Production at Dolores Font Cortes in Spain. We have been using an IMA spreader and cutting machine for three years now. We produce swimwear and have a high level of quality with very complex patterns and very difficult fabrics.

With these machines we have greatly improved both the quality of spreading and cutting, achieving goals that were previously unattainable.

We are very happy to have these machines equipped with extremely effective tools.

#### TESTIMONY: Ms. DAJANA BLAGIC— DEVIC TEKSTIL—BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA


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Hi,

I am Dajana Blagic, general manager of company Devic Tekstil from Teslic, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Our company has been active since 1991 and is engaged in the production of underwear.

We produce underwear for well-known brands in Western Europe, as well as for our own brand.

Our customers demand that all orders be completed on time and with the best production quality, which is why we decided to automate our cutting room two years ago, a part of the production process that had not yet been automated.

We decided to automate our cutting room with IMA machines (digitalization of patterns, spreader, conveyor tables, and automatic cutting machine).

After two years of use and in cooperation with IMA, we can say that we did not make mistake in our choice. We have full support at all times from all of the IMA team members.

Using the automated cutting room of IMA. We increased the productivity, efficiency, and overall quality of work in production.

We see that we are not only a customer of IMA but also a partner. They are always with us to jointly resolve any situation and they will accompany us into our future.

We strongly recommend IMA machines to all underwear manufacturers around the world.

We wish you a lot of success in your work and in the realization of your future projects.

**TESTIMONY: Mr. SHOHAGIR AKOND—  
INTIMATE CREATIONS LIMITED—GRUPPO  
INTIMATE APPARELS LTD.**

**- BANGLADESH**

My name is Shohagir Akond and I am the Cutting Room Manager at Intimate Group. First of all, we would like to thank the IMA family. At the moment we are using six automatic cutting machines in our plants. Four of them are

IMA branded and among them we have the latest generation of the Typhoon model. We use all the cuts. They are good and work to our full satisfaction.

I can say that IMA products are good and they don't give us any problems. I hope that we will also be able to continue to collaborate with the IMA family in the future, because it guarantees us fast and constant production and excellent cutting quality.



Customers ask us to cut with an IMA cutting machine because the products are precise. Moreover, the IMA automatic cutting machine has a solid structure, maintenance with spare parts is minimal, and the technical support provided by IMA is very good and efficient. Most importantly, the average productivity of IMA is high.

For me the IMA cut is the best cut to work on, and, on balance, between purchase, maintenance and production, IMA succeeds in being the least expensive and most cost effective.

The second thing, but no less important, is the relationship between the management of our companies, which is excellent, and the technical support, which is fundamental, has never been lacking. Having immediate support and service on site allows us never to have our machines down, and, therefore, guarantees production. Spare parts are always available locally. If something breaks during the warranty period it is always replaced promptly at no cost. IMA is a very good brand.

My colleagues and I have a strong sense of gratitude towards Intimate Creations Limited, our company, because we always have the constant support of the owners, who are very keen to use technology in the production process.

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