

PRESS RELEASE

GRUPPO FLORENCE AT LINEAPELLE 2024:

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE EVOLUTION OF INTERMEDIATE PROCESSING FOR HIGH-QUALITY LEATHER GOODS.

FOCUSING ON SYNERGY IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Milan, February 15, 2024 – For the second consecutive year, **Gruppo Florence**, the first integrated manufacturing hub in Italy serving global luxury brands, is attending **LINEAPELLE**, the leading international exhibition on leather (Milan, February 20-22) to talk about how integration and experimentation in its workshops, which work in synergy, can contribute to the evolution of fashion and quality leather goods.

The four workshops of Gruppo Florence, specializing in intermediate processing – ABC Ricami, Officina Ciemmeci, Ricamificio GS and RedPixel – will showcase their ability to combine traditional methods with cutting-edge processes to visitors at LINEAPELLE. @Ricamificio GS will show how traditional decorative craftsmanship is combined with modern silkscreen printing techniques; @Officina Ciemmeci will highlight its expertise in airbrush finishing and in sophisticated digital and silkscreen printing; @ABC Ricami will demonstrate its skills in embroidery and sequin appliqués, exploring new types of leather and fabric quilting; and @Red Pixel will demonstrate how high-quality printing can add value to luxury products, in which dedication and craftsmanship make the difference.

A remarkable exhibit that embodies the Group's philosophy of innovation and co-creation in its production techniques is on display in the center of the exhibition area. The aim is to demonstrate how traditional methodologies can be combined with state-of-the-art processes by breaking down the work process.

A visual blend of traditional craftsmanship with sophisticated mapping technologies and selective processing is achieved by integrating printing and embroidery, the needle punching technique, and the art of spraying. Denim, jersey and knitwear become canvases to be woven: the synergy between the various workshops is at the heart of a combination of craftsmanship and technological innovation that marks a new chapter in product research and development.

Gruppo Florence is participating in the exhibition for the second time with its dark yellow stand, which is the Group's brand color. A tactile experience is offered: the screens at the entrance reveal transparent intimate spaces for designing and creating. In the center, a lively atmosphere is created around tables and stools, where ideas are brought to life and conversations take place. The atelier pays tribute to functionality and shaker culture, which is rooted in aesthetics while maintaining a focus on sustainability. Every aspect, from manufacturing details to the type of wood used, is designed with durability in mind. This applies not only to LINEAPELLE, but also to the Group's new headquarters at the prestigious Via Manzoni 43 in Milan and in Florence, at the historic Manifattura Tabacchi, where the stand furnishings will be relocated at the end of the exhibition.

Attila Kiss, CEO of Gruppo Florence, commented: "Our stand at LINEAPELLE consists of free-standing elements that we will also use in other spaces and on other occasions. A travelling, sustainable atelier, consisting of simple elements that are the result of our ongoing research and innovation, which stem from co-creation processes in our workshops and from the combination of several traditional manufacturing techniques with state-of-the-art processes. In doing so, we are taking the first step towards creating our own Wonderland."

Gruppo Florence

The first integrated manufacturing hub in Italy serving global luxury brands, Gruppo Florence is majority-owned by the international investment firm Permira, with a significant stake also held by the entrepreneurs, the management team and VAM Investments. Fondo Italiano d'Investimento also holds a minority stake. Founded in October 2020 by a consortium of investors led by VAM Investments, Fondo Italiano d'Investimento (through the Italian Fund for Consolidation and Growth – FICC) and Italmobiliare, the Group today boasts a solid governance structure based on close collaboration between financial partners, the entrepreneurial expertise of the management, and the high-quality manufacturing know-how of the 28 Group companies.

This distinctive business model has allowed Gruppo Florence to quickly establish itself as a manufacturing hub that embraces the entire supply chain of the international luxury sector, and has the capability to develop industrial and creative synergies between companies in order to offer customized solutions and innovative services to brands. Gruppo Florence aims to promote an integrated and sustainable supply chain.

Headed by President Francesco Trapani and led by CEO Attila Kiss, in 2022 Gruppo Florence achieved a turnover in excess of 500 million euros. It now employs more than 3,000 employees in 12 Italian regions and collaborates with over 70 international brands.

For more information, visit our website <u>www.gruppoflorence.it</u> or follow us on <u>LinkedIn</u>

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