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RadiciGroup celebrates the 75th anniversary of Tessiture Pietro Radici, a solid growing company

On the occasion of the celebration, Angelo Radici, president of RadiciGroup, announced a EUR 10 million investment in a new nonwovens production line.

Tessiture Pietro Radici (TPR) – ancestral RadiciGroup company founded in 1941 as a manufacturing company engaged in the production of textiles and today a market leader in the production of spunbond nonwovens (Dylar®) and synthetic grass yarn (Radigreen®) – is celebrating its 75 years in business.

The initiatives for the celebration of this important anniversary include a series of **events dedicated to employees** and their families, as well as a **special publication** “*Come Tessuto Non Tessuto*” [*Like nonwoven fabric*], which traces the history of the company within a “*glocal*” economic context. It is a sign of the company’s respect for the people who have always had the ability to evolve, seize new opportunities and promptly respond to an increasingly competitive market – the people who have made TPR a great company.

Today TPR has 130 employees with proven skills and know-how – a guarantee of the company’s competence and reliability – and is led by managing director and engineer, Enrico Buriani. Production is concentrated in Gandino, the province of Bergamo, as are the research and development activities that support production to ensure continuous innovation, excellence over time and the sustainability of the Dylar® and Radigreen® products.

The company primarily operates in two production and sales business segments: polypropylene **spunbond nonwovens**, and polyethylene and polypropylene **artificial grass yarn**. The peculiarity of the spunbond nonwoven material lies in the production process. Unlike ordinary fabrics, nonwovens are warp and weft free and are produced directly from the polymer by extrusion spinning. The entangled continuous filaments obtained are then web bonded through a heat process. Dylar® nonwoven is particularly suited to industrial applications, such as construction insulation, automotive, agriculture, furnishings and single-use tablecloths for the

hospitality industry. The artificial grass yarn produced by TPR is used for the manufacture of synthetic turf for sport venues (football, hockey, tennis, golf, etc.) and for decorative applications (gardens and children's playgrounds).

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary, Angelo Radici, president of RadiciGroup, announced a EUR 10 million investment in a new nonwovens production line with the specific objective of strengthening TPR's presence in the construction and agriculture markets. This business decision shows RadiciGroup's determination to expand in the nonwovens market and confirms the great affection existing between the company and the members of the community where it is based.

“To us, Tessiture Pietro Radici is a symbol of the strong bond that has connected us from the beginning to the community where our Group was born and has grown,” said Maurizio Radici, vice president and COO of RadiciGroup. *“TPR is the ‘oldest’ Group company, but it is also a business carrying on the production of innovative products developed to meet the needs of markets, like construction, that are demanding more and more energy efficient products.”*

The nonwovens market for technical applications has grown worldwide at an annual rate of around 8% for quite some time. This is the reason behind the Group's decision to invest in this technology, with the goal of increasing the Gandino company's production capacity by 50%. Production will rise from the current 12 thousand tons per year to 18 thousand tons per year by the end of 2017, and the new line will employ 20 workers.

RADICIGROUP - With 2,985 employees, sales revenue of EUR 1,011 million, and a network of production and sales sites located in Europe, North America, South America and Asia, RadiciGroup is one of the world's leading producers of a wide range of chemical intermediates, polyamide polymers, engineering plastics, synthetic fibres and nonwovens. These products are the result of the Group's outstanding chemical know-how and are used in a variety of industrial sectors such as: AUTOMOTIVE – ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS – CONSUMER GOODS – APPAREL – FURNISHINGS – CONSTRUCTION – HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES – SPORT. With its business areas - **Specialty Chemicals, Performance Plastics and Synthetic Fibres & Nonwovens** (Performance Yarn, Comfort Fibres and Extrusion Yarn), RadiciGroup is part of a larger industrial group that also includes textile machinery (ITEMA), energy (GEOGREEN) and hotel (SAN MARCO) businesses.

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