ITEMA PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Itema exhibits latest and revolutionary innovations in airjet and rapier weaving technology at ITMA ASIA + CITME 2014 (Hall E2 Booth C01)

Colzate (Italy) – Itema S.p.A, the leading global provider of advanced weaving solutions, including best-in-class weaving machines, spare parts and services, is counting down to ITMA ASIA+CITME 2014, one of the biggest textile fairs in the world, taking place in Shanghai, from June 16th-20th. During the expo, Itema will proudly unveil the latest advancements in weaving technology, both in airjet and rapier machines, to allow Customers to produce high quality fabrics and achieve higher levels of success. Itema will exhibit 10 weaving machines in total, 6 in our own booth (Hall E2 Booth C01) and 4 with Jacquard applications in partners’ booths (Stäubli, Bonas, Grosse and Song & Song).

The Italian privately held multinational Company closed 2013 with stellar results and a +50% YOY increase in weaving machines turnover and, encouragingly, the growth is still continuing into 2014. Itema is the only manufacturer in the world to provide all three weft insertion technologies: rapier, airjet and projectile, with an ample product portfolio and a strong commitment to continuous innovation.

The Company is present in China since 2003 with sales and after-sales teams, assembly and technical support with a mission to ensure the highest possible standard of weaving solutions and a complete product and service offering. China is one of the most important markets for Itema and a country with a strong potential for continued growth, reason for which the Company launched new and improved corporate offices and assembly plant in Shanghai on March 6th, 2014.

Outside China, Itema is dedicated to growing our reach and presence also in the Indian Subcontinent, with the latest appointment of a new Managing Director of Itema Weaving India Pvt. Ltd, Updeep Singh, who joins Itema with broad experience as a senior executive leader in the Indian textile industry, most recently, the role of Chief Operating Officer at NSL Textiles Ltd., as
well as leadership positions in Welspun India – Asia’s largest terry towel manufacturer.

“We view ITMA ASIA as an important platform to showcase our latest technological advancements,” said Carlo Rogora, CEO of Itema. “We are probably the only company in the textile manufacturing industry that boasts not one, but two R&D departments. Itema recently launched the ItemaLab, our advanced research incubator, with the mission to design the weaving machine of the future. We are immensely proud of our accomplishments and are confident that also our Customers will appreciate the innovations of our weaving machines.”

Fulvio Carlo Toma, Group Sales & Marketing Director of Itema comments: “With nearly two centuries of experience, Itema has always had a rich history of developing the best technology for the weaving industry. Now, with the recent changes within the management, Itema endeavors to achieve the global leadership position within the next few years.”

TECHNOLOGY HIGHLIGHTS ON SHOW

Itema’s ITMA ASIA booth offers the best highlights of the Company’ latest technological advancements and reliable timely service.

**Itema Rapier Machines on Show**

Itema will display the **R9500** rapier weaving machine, the 2013 best-seller, which, at just one year from launch, represents one-third of Itema’s revenue from weaving machines. The R9500 will be available weaving a **Technical** style. The newest **R9000** rapier, also on display at ITMA ASIA and weaving a **Shirting** style, is designed for easy use and provides the best balance between cost and perk. Other rapier weaving machines carrying the Itema brand and on show in Shanghai are the **R880DT** with **Jacquard** weaving **Terry** cloth.

Itema will show several rapier machines in partners’ booths, of which two **R9500**, one with **Bonas Jacquard** for the Furnishing and Tapestry segment and another with **Stäubli Jacquard** for the Fancy Automotive segment. Two other rapier machines on display in partner booths are **R9000**, one with **Grosse Jacquard** weaving an **Upholstery** style, and another with **Song & Song Jacquard** weaving **Furnishing** style.

**Itema Airjet Machines: “Innovation on Display”**

As with the Rapier preview above, we are equally excited to demonstrate the innovation and performance of our airjet machine – the A9500. In the words of our CEO Carlo Rogora: “We Can’t Wait! Itema has prepared the machines with challenging applications to illustrate unprecedented performance in speed, diversification and energy consumption. Saving the details for the show, Itema will present a brand new concept that leaves the competition behind. ITMA Asia provides the perfect venue to validate the dedicated efforts of Itema’s Research & Development Engineers.”

If you are looking for a brand new and dynamically different experience in airjet weaving, join us at our stand in Hall E2, Booth number C01!

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For further information contact:

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Notes to Editors:

About Itema
Itema is a leading global provider of advanced weaving solutions, including best-in-class weaving machines, spare parts and integrated services. The Company is the only manufacturer in the world to provide all three weft insertion technologies: rapier, air jet and projectile, with an ample product portfolio and a commitment to continuous innovation and technological advancement of its weaving machines. For more information about Itema, please visit www.itemagroup.com.

Images:

Building on the success of Itema’s A9500 airjet loom, this year Itema will unveil the latest technological novelties in the airjet weaving machines segment geared to provide the right weaving machine for any type of Customer.
- Itema **R9500 Rapier** Weaving Machine – the 2013 best-seller. The new flagship which now represents one-third of the revenue from weaving machines for our company.

- Itema, the privately held Italian multinational, is the only company in the world providing all three weft insertion technologies: rapier, airjet and projectile.
-Itema embodies the best of the technological know-how of historic brands Somet, Sulzer and Vamatex. To the right, the corporate HQ of the Company located in Colzate, Bergamo area, Northern Italy.
Biographies:

About Carlo Rogora, CEO

Mr Carlo Rogora holds a Mechanical Engineering Master’s Degree of Politecnico of Milan (Italy). He has had an impressive career holding several key leadership positions.

From 1983 to 1988 Mr Rogora was Manufacturing Manager and Process Engineer with IBM.

From 1988 to 1996 he supervised international operations-related projects, with a specific focus on supply chain integration at the international Consultancy firm AT Kearney.

From 1996 to 2001 he became Vice President of Pirelli Cables and served as CEO Eastern Europe Affiliates. In 2001 Mr Rogora was named Business Director Europe, Middle East, North Africa until 2007.

In 2007, Rogora joined Kartogroup (Wepa-Lucca, manufacturing tissue paper for hygienic and domestic use, based in Carraia (Tuscany, Italy) with manufacturing sites in Italy, Spain, France, BeNeLux, Hungary and Germany) in the capacity of CEO, a position he held until 2010.

In 2010, Rogora served as President & CEO of Cisa S.p.A. (producing and selling sterilization systems to hospitals and the industrial sector, covering all sterilization needs). Cisa is part of a wider industrial group headed by the entrepreneur Fabio Perini, which manufactures industrial machinery and integrated production systems with factories on four continents and headquarters in Lucca (Tuscany, Italy).

At the end of 2011, Mr Rogora was appointed CEO of Itema S.p.A. (leading producer of best-in-class weaving machinery and services).

Mr Rogora has a son and a daughter, lives in the Varese area of Northern Italy and is fluent in English and Italian.
About Giacomo Sala, Group CFO and Managing Director Itema Switzerland

Mr Giacomo Sala has a Master's Degree in Economics and Finance from Universita' Cattolica del Sacro Cuore of Milan (Italy). Upon graduation in 1997, Mr Sala started his fast-paced career as a financial controller in Mitsubishi Electric Europe. In 2002, he was named Financial Director of Daewoo Electronics Europe GmbH.

Mr Sala made the transition to the textile manufacturing industry in 2008, when he became the Financial Director of Promatech. In 2009, Promatech became Itema and Mr Sala was promoted to the role of CFO and Chairman of the Board. Itema is a multinational Company based in northern Italy, producing best-in-class weaving machines. Once in Itema, Mr Sala’s is quickly appointed to an impressive succession of roles, including Group Finance Director and CFO of Itema China in 2010, CFO of Asia Pacific area in February 2012 and later the same year Group CFO. In 2013, Mr Sala became also the Managing Director of Itema Switzerland in addition to maintaining the role of Group CFO.

Mr Giacomo Sala has a baby son, Filippo, lives between Italy and Switzerland, and is fluent in English and Italian.
About Fulvio Carlo Toma, Group Sales & Marketing Director

Mr Fulvio Carlo Toma is the Group Sales & Marketing Director at Itema S.p.A. since April 2013 leading the corporate marketing and commercial departments and setting the strategy geared to consolidate and grow the global weaving manufacturer’s competitive position worldwide.

A high-profile manager with a long track record and broad expertise, Mr Toma built up his experience holding key roles in leading international companies.

Prior to Itema, from 2010 onwards, Mr Toma was Chief Commercial Officer at Elettronica Santerno S.p.A. with the task of coordinating and managing the commercial network and all the Santerno branches in Italy and abroad. In particular, he was in charge of the organization’s business and development strategies in the fast-paced renewables market.

From 2008 to 2010, Mr Toma worked in Siemens first in Business Development and later appointed Sales & Marketing Director for South Europe and South America. Mr Toma held also a number of leadership positions in other major international companies, such as Cap Gemini and General Electric.

Mr Toma has a degree in Physics from the University of Milan, and advanced Master’s degrees and specialization in business strategies from Universities in Madrid and the USA. Mr Toma is also an acknowledged journalist enrolled in the Italian National Register of Journalists and the author of more than 200 publications, which resulted in professorships in Italy and across Europe, as well as cooperation with Universities and Research Centres in the United States.

Mr Fulvio Carlo Toma has a daughter, Martina and a son, Alessandro. His wife Blanca is Spanish. He is fluent in English, Spanish and Italian.
About Updeep Singh, Managing Director Itema India

Prior to joining Itema in March 2014, Updeep Singh held the role of Chief Operating Officer at NSL Textiles Ltd. (since 2012) and Director of Business and Marketing for SEL Manufacturing Ltd. (since 2011).

From 2005 to 2011, Mr. Singh held a number of leadership positions in Welspun India – Asia’s largest terry towel manufacturer. In Welspun, he was first appointed as President (Projects & Commercial) and later promoted to President (Corporate Function) with the responsibility for Business HR & Strategy.

Updeep Singh started his fast-paced career in 1987 as a Management Trainee in Vardhman Textiles Ltd. In 2002 he was named Vice President (Purchase & Projects) in the same company.

Mr. Singh’s high level profile is further strengthened by his active and valuable contribution to Indian textile associations, including the Indian Institute of Materials Management and the Ludhiana Management Association, of which he is an Executive Member.

Updeep Singh holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Science from the Punjab University (Chandigarh), an MBA in Marketing and Human Resources from the GND University (Amritsar), and a Master’s Degree in Advanced Human Resources from the Executive Program of the University of Michigan (USA). Furthermore, Updeep attended an intense training program in Change Management at the Indian School of Business in Hyderabad.

Updeep Singh is happily married and has a son and a daughter.
About Lorenzo Maffioli, Managing Director Itema China

Experienced professional with 19 years of solid track record, of which 17 mainly in production and supply chain management with shorter experiences in purchasing and quality. 6 years of experience in China in two different locations (Chongqing and Shanghai). Since 2012, resident Managing Director of our Chinese branch.

From 1995 to 2004 in Iveco (Fiat Group, trucks and engines production) in Italy, last three years as plant manager of a controlled company in charge of special vehicles production. From 2004 to 2007 production manager of Itema based at our headquarters in Italy.

Back to Iveco in 2007 to join the team in charge of new China JV with Saic Automotive for heavy truck production in Chongqing. After completing the JV start up project, in June 2011, named plant manager of largest European Iveco plant in Brescia. In Shanghai, since September 2012, as Itema Chinese branch Managing Director.