

PRESS RELEASE

Tofflonit, open innovation at the service of the pharmaceutical and biotech industry

**Thanks to the industrial skills of Itema, the new company
will produce in Italy lyophilization systems for the Tofflon Group**

Colzate – **Itema**, leading global provider of advanced weaving solutions, and **Tofflon Science and Technology Group Co. Ltd.**, Asiatic giant company in the pharmaceutical industry, have presented **Tofflonit**, the new joint venture dedicated to the production of industrial lyophilizers for the biopharmaceutical sector that operates under the name Tofflon Itema Srl. With an initial investment of **10 million euros**, the company will have its regional headquarters in **Nibbia, in the province of Novara**, where a manufacturing plant with high quality and innovation levels has been operating since October. The agreement was illustrated in Bergamo on October 24th during **BioTopics 2023**, the event dedicated to biotechnologies and open innovation.

Founded in Shanghai in 1993, Tofflon is a comprehensive pharmaceutical equipment supplier to provide process support, core equipment, integrated system and pharma engineering for the pharma and biotech industry, with more than 5,800 employees worldwide and a 2022 turnover of about 800 million US dollars. In order to pursue its strategy of internationalization and expansion, the group chose Itema as the partner for the planning and engineering of its new branch in Europe, where the group will produce lyophilization systems for the production of antibiotics, vaccines, diagnostic drugs, products containing proteins and biotechnological products.

“Throughout our thirty-year activity, we have developed solid skills for the production of machinery and equipment for the pharmaceutical and biotech industry. Our aim is to further grow in the European and American markets, approaching clients to whom we want to ensure the excellence of our solutions with efficient services and ideal shipping times. We are sure that the collaboration with Itema will enable us to

reach excellent results”, said **Michael Chang**, senior vice president of Tofflon Science and Technology Group Co. Ltd.

Known in the world for its weaving machines and integrated solutions, Iteima has transferred its experience in mechanical, electronic, and mechatronic technologies to Itemalab, founding a multidisciplinary hub that in the last few years has become a privileged partner for companies in any industrial sector that need advice and support in innovation and sustainability, from digitalization to system engineering.

“We are proud that Tofflon selected Itemalab to fine-tune the industrial plan that will bring to the market its advanced lyophilization systems. The factory of Tofflonit in Nibbia is a clear demonstration of the skills of Itemalab in the fields of lean manufacturing and open innovation, and it represents another significant step of our Group diversification strategy after the takeover of Lamiflex, leading supplier of composite products”, added **Ugo Ghilardi**, CEO of Iteima.

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Reminder for editors:

Tofflon Science and Technology Group Co. Ltd.

Tofflon was founded in Shanghai in 1993. It is a comprehensive pharmaceutical equipment supplier to provide process support, core equipment, integrated system and pharma engineering for the pharma and biotech industry in the world. Tofflon focuses on studying drug manufacturing science and process equipment manufacturing science to design and build “Advanced Drug Manufacturing Platform” from small molecule to large molecule and cell and gene therapy applications. Tofflon has established joint ventures and technology collaborations with global partners from USA, Europe and Japan. Furthermore Tofflon has built six modern pharmaceutical equipment manufacturing bases with global competitiveness. In the following years, Tofflon will dedicate itself to grow from “China Tofflon to Global Tofflon”, from “Equipment Supplier to Solution Provider” to professionally support global pharma and biotech industry continuous innovations and commercialization to contribute to the maximum benefits and welfare of its served society, customers, stockholders, employees and their families.

More information about Tofflon can be found on the website www.tofflon.com

Iteima Group

Iteima is an Italian multinational leading provider of advanced weaving solutions, including weaving machines, spare parts and integrated services. The Company is the only manufacturer in the world to provide the top three weft insertion technologies: rapier, airjet and projectile, with an ample product portfolio and a steadfast commitment to continuous innovation and technological advancement of our weaving machines.

Iteima owns the majority stake of Lamiflex, leading supplier of technical composite products and Schoch, leading producer of weaving accessories.

Sixty percent of Iteima is held by Gianni Radici’s heirs (the siblings Angelo, Maurizio, Paolo, Maria Grazia and Bruna Radici). The remaining part is held by Arizzi and Torri families.

More information about Iteima can be found on the website www.itemagroup.com