

## SISMA S.p.A. agrees on joint venture for 3D printing

**Joint venture with Germany's biggest machine tools and laser manufacturer TRUMPF is aimed at developing a robust and productive 3D printer for mass production of metal components**

*Piovene Rocchette, May 6, 2014* – SISMA S.p.A. has agreed on a joint venture in the additive manufacturing sector. The partner is TRUMPF, the biggest machine tools, laser technology, electronics and medical technology manufacturer in Germany. TRUMPF has a 55-percent stake in the new enterprise while SISMA S.p.A. has a 45-percent interest. Both partners are bringing expertise, human resources and capital to the joint venture. TRUMPF SISMA S.r.l. is based in Piovene Rocchette near Vicenza, Italy. There, SISMA and TRUMPF plan to co-develop latest-generation production systems for the 3D printing of metal components.

The technology known as 'additive manufacturing' enables any component to be built up directly from a 3D design program. The parts are created layer by layer from metallic powder, using the power of the laser. The technology has the potential of partially replacing methods such as milling or casting. The components are just as durable and long-lasting as their conventionally produced counterparts.

Today, companies from the most diverse sectors are qualifying components and products suited to additive manufacturing rather than the conventional methods utilized until now. To offer solutions here, SISMA is working on rapid entry into this market in partnership with TRUMPF. The two joint venture partners, with their high level of expertise in laser and mechanical engineering, want to provide robust and productive machines for prototype and mass production. "Many machines on the market today are aimed more at prototype construction," explains Dr. Peter Leibinger, head of TRUMPF Laser Technology. "In the future, however, the most important criterion where additive manufacturing lines are concerned will be their suitability for industrial applications."

Several years ago SISMA did begin work on developing an additive manufacturing machine for the production of small metallic components – and the Italian company is bringing this expertise to the joint venture. With annual sales of 33 million Euro and around 1000 laser devices sold each year, SISMA is the biggest laser manufacturer in Italy. The company has around 130 employees and can look back on over 50 years of experience in precision mechanics and industrial automation. The target markets of the innovative laser and systems supplier are primarily jewelry, fashion, dental and industry.

TRUMPF entered the additive manufacturing sector as a pioneer back in the year 2000. The “TrumaForm” – a universal tool for the generative manufacturing of metallic materials – was, however, years ahead of its time because the market for serial production of components had not yet developed. At the start of this year TRUMPF entered the additive manufacturing business once again, and is now benefiting from the results of earlier development work as well as from its ever increasing expertise in the related process of laser deposition welding, which is already being used today in all kinds of sectors for repair and coating applications.

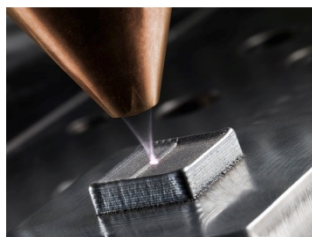
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**TRUMPF\_SISMA\_1.jpg**

The modern headquarters of SISMA S.p.A. in Piovene Rocchette.

**TRUMPF\_SISMA\_2.jpg**

TRUMPF Laser Technology is working on a rapid entry into the 3D printing market.

**TRUMPF\_SISMA\_3.jpg**

Generative manufacturing: Laser deposition welding on a workpiece.

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## About SISMA

SISMA is a point of reference in the production of high precision systems. Family owned company born in Schio (Vicenza, Italy) in 1961, SISMA's core business consists of laser sources and systems for welding, marking, 3-D cutting, SLM (Selective Laser Melting) and chain machinery. Today SISMA is a multinational, worldwide renowned company with a strong and dynamic sales network. Great attention to customer care and technical assistance are distinctive features. Quickly growing, SISMA Group is looking for new profiles to face ambitious challenges and reach new goals. The company is also heavily investing in research and development. The aims are maintaining SISMA's technologic leading role and exploring new paths in laser systems.

## About TRUMPF

TRUMPF is a leading global technology company with Machine Tools, Laser Technology, Electronics and Medical Technology as its business fields. Products manufactured with the company's technology can be found in almost every sector of industry. TRUMPF is the world technological and market leader for machine tools used in flexible sheet metal processing, and also for industrial lasers. In 2012/13 the company – which has approximately 9,900 employees – achieved sales of 2.34 billion euros. With more than 60 subsidiaries and branches, the TRUMPF Group is represented in almost all the countries of Europe, North and South America, and Asia. It has production facilities in Germany, China, France, Great Britain, Japan, Mexico, Austria, Poland, Switzerland, the Czech Republic and the USA.

For more information go to

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