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PRESS RELEASE

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FROM RESEARCH TO INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

Celerius, conceived and developed by ITIA-CNR, is *the first Italian Parallel Kinematic Machine (PKM)*. It will be presented at the BIMU 2002, Pavilion 15/1° Stand A24-B25, together with new tools for machine tools conception and development.

The machine is the outcome of ITIA-CNR's research activities inside the PNR-SPI program (National Research Program for Innovative Production Systems), started and financed by the Italian Ministry of Research (MIUR).

ITIA, Institute of Industrial Technologies and Automation, is one of the few research institutes – focused on industrial innovation – in Europe with the ability both to conceive and to realize not only new machines but also pilot production plants.

Inside the PNR-SPI program, ITIA - in cooperation with companies and universities - developed **three pilot plants, two for the conception and production of shoes and furniture and a third which is a flexible assembly system**. Such plants are the core of the new laboratories started by ITIA aiming at research activities to be carried out in tight cooperation with industrial partners.

They are used as a basis, among the others, for two big Research Projects started by ITIA: EUROShoE and Automotive Components Service Manufacturing.

EUROShoE is the largest research project focused on manufacturing inside the Fifth Framework Program of the IST founded by the EC, with 34 partners coming from 9 different countries and with an overall value of 17 Meuro. ITIA acts as project coordinator aiming at **developing the new technologies and processes that are necessary for the implementation of the Mass Customization Paradigm** in the shoe industry.

Automotive Components Service Manufacturing is one of the largest research projects inside the Operative National Research Program, founded by the MIUR for the objective areas 1, coordinated by COMAU SpA, with 6 partners and a value of more than 13 Meuro. ITIA is committed to the **development of new solutions and technologies enabling the implementation of Service Manufacturing as a new industrial paradigm**, in particular in component production.

ITIA is a **Networked Institute**, as it is organized in sections and labs spread all over the National territory. It interacts with the European and international research framework by taking part in 40 research projects in cooperation with companies, research centers and universities.

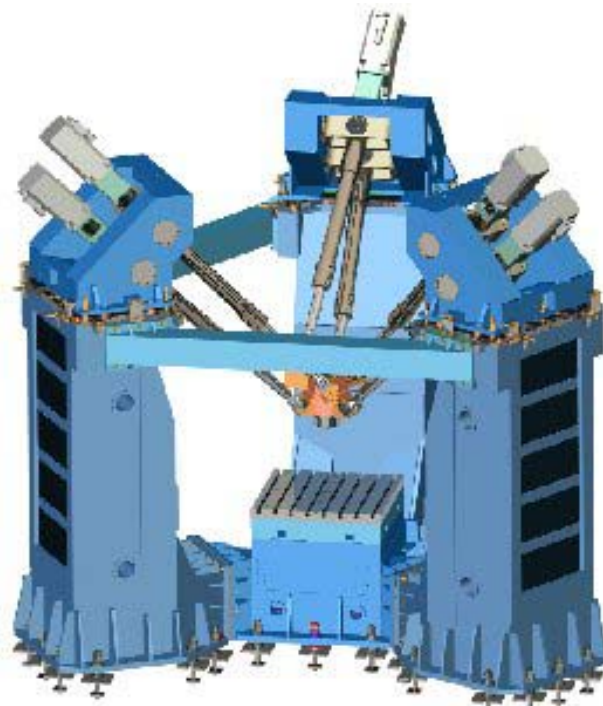


PKM Celerius

The self-financed budget - about 60% of the overall budget – comes from the National and European research market by cooperating with industrial partners in research projects.

ITIA's activities range from research on Enabling Technologies and their industrial application to the analysis of the emerging technological and industrial paradigms, as well as to specialized education as in the case of the first **Master in Industrial Research**. Such activities are oriented to the most relevant sectors in the National Industry (mechanical, made in Italy, white goods, components, new high-tech products) and consider the life-cycle of both the products and the processes in order to contribute to the competitive and sustainable growth of the Manufacturing Industry.

ITIA's activities and research are aiming at developing a **National Industrial Research system**, focused in particular on the **mechanical assets**, to provide Italy with the *High Tech Manufacturing* necessary for the competitiveness of the Italian products and their sustainable success in the global markets.



Modello PKM Celerius



Pilot plant of shoes production
Lab ITIA-CNR *for Design & Mass Customization*, Vigevano



Pilot plant of wood manufacturing
Lab ITIA-CNR *for Design & Woodworking*, Caserta



Pilot plant of flexible assembly processes
Dept. ITIA-CNR, Bari



Plant Zanussi of Rovigo
Methodologies implementation and prototypes developed by ITIA-CNR

Further info and flyers about activities and research projects of ITIA can be downloaded at the website: www.itia.cnr.it/news/news.htm