

## Covid-19 emergency, Comerio Ercole has developed a new technology and a new machinery to produce PPE

The new system has obtained official industrial patent recognition and allows with the new COMERIO ERCOLE machinery to produce FFP2 / P3 masks and "gas-permeable" hospital gowns capable of increasing comfort while maintaining the protection of doctors and nurses.

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On December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019 COMERIO ERCOLE filed a patent request for an invention relating to a revolutionary and innovative CALANDER with 2 + 2 heated rolls, equipped with a special "activation" system of the processed film, for applications relating to the hygienic/sanitary world.

Exactly two years later, on December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021, the company, based in Busto Arsizio, which has been active for over 100 years in the sector of plants construction for plastic, rubber and nonwovens industry, received official communication by the patent office concerning the legal concession of the patent.

"The system is the result of 2 years of trials in our laboratories and it radically changes the technological paradigm for the production of gas-permeable products through a controlled deformation of the structure of the polymers", explains Roberto MARCORA, the inventor of the new system and head of the R&D laboratories of COMERIO ERCOLE, symbolically named after "Giulio Natta", Nobel Prize for Chemistry (1963).

In practice, the patent obtained by COMERIO ERCOLE will protect a new technology that allows the construction of a special machinery for the production of personal protective equipment for health and hygiene purposes, such as gowns for hospital staff, making them breathable and therefore more comfortable, but at the same time, guaranteeing the "barrier" to pathogenic substances and thus extending the life of the product and the degree of maximum protection for doctors and nurses.

"We are very pleased to have achieved this important result, which rewards the passion, know-how and activity of the entire team in our R&D department, which has always been the beating heart of the company. But above all we are proud that this new technology and our calenders have already contributed, in the Covid-19 pandemic emergency, to producing PPE personal protective equipment (hospital gowns and FFP2 / P3 healthcare masks) even more performing and protective", comments the CEO of COMERIO ERCOLE, Riccardo Comerio.

The first new calendering systems, equipped with the new technology, were designed and produced in full lockdown period, with great commitment by the entire company structure, and installed already in the second half of 2020 at leading European manufacturers engaged in the production of PPE. This to support the community response to the Covid-19 protection need.

The production by our customers of the protection devices with the new technology started in the first months of 2021. In these pre-Christmas days, we are commissioning a new plant at an important German customer and we hope, within end of the year, to have completed all the assembly and testing activities for this project, which will start production at full capacity from January 2022.

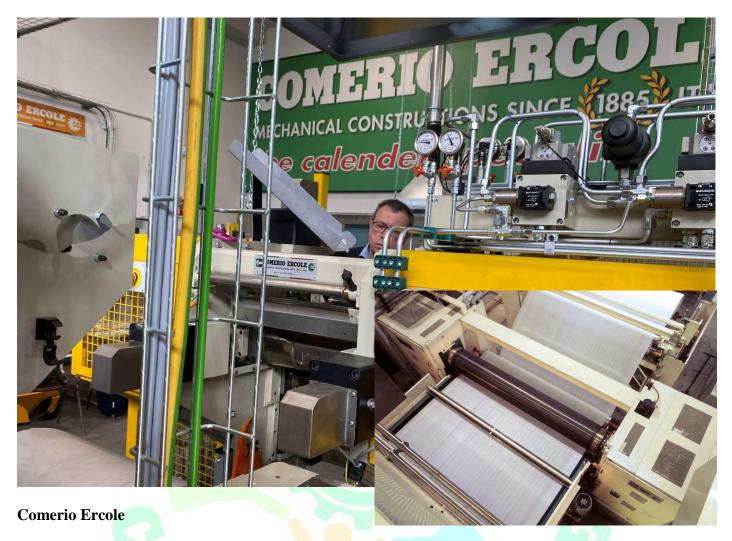
Busto Arsizio, December 23rd 2021











From an initial artisan dimension in 1885, Comerio Ercole is now a structured company with an integrated production process from design to commissioning that operates under the ISO 9001: 2015 quality system in the design and construction of machines and plants for the processing of plastics, rubber, technical nonwovens and special applications. Comerio Ercole has an efficient industrial complex that extends in the main settlement of Busto Arsizio on an area of over 40,000 square meters and in other nearby settlements for a further 20,000 square meters. The technical offices and the mechanical processing departments, where about 200 collaborators are permanently employed, are constantly updated with the most advanced systems (2D - 3D - VR - FEM) and with new machine tools of the highest technology. Comerio Ercole operates as a socially responsible company under the "CSR" logo based on solid principles, to protect the environment according to the ISO 14001: 2004 standard and has long since started a recognized integrated ESG sustainability plan. It constantly develops new and patented technologically advanced solutions and also it engages in R&D programs being national and regional authorized laboratory, promoting international collaborations.

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