



International Agricultural
Machinery Exhibition

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Cap. Soc. € 52.000,00
C.F./P.IVA 04227291004
R.E.A. di Bologna n. 408195
A sole-partner company
subject to management
and coordination by the
Unacoma Association
www.unacoma.it

Press release no.3/2010

EIMA Energy: machines for energy

The second edition of EIMA Energy, the salon dedicated to products, technologies and services for energy from renewable sources, will be held November 10 to 14 in the framework of EIMA International. Biomass from agriculture alone can meet 10% of the nation's energy requirement but needs appropriate technologies and a high degree of mechanization. More than 100 manufacturing industries present at EIMA Energy in a setting which will host more than 1,600 exhibitors of machinery and equipment for all types of agricultural work.

Burning straw and wood is the most ancient of ways to product energy but is also the most modern. Vegetable biomass – replaced in the past two centuries by coal, oil and hydroelectric power – has made a comeback as an important source of energy. Vegetable raw materials have become a fundamental resource in the economies of all countries as transformed into easily fired chips or packaged in practical pellets, wastes treated in anaerobic digesters for the production of biogas or used for the production of alcohol and combustible oils for internal combustion engines and diesel engines. According to the Italian Biomass Association ITABIA data, the use of biomass of agricultural origin now accounts for only 2-3% of the Italian national energy requirement but, if opportunely exploited, could hold a potential of 16-18 Mtep to cover as much as 10% of the nation's energy consumption. This is the framework in which – on the basis of European Union Directive 2009/28 – all renewable energy sources must cover 17% of the national energy requirement by 2020. Because of its potential, and its quality as a renewable energy source present and accessible on the land, biomass is certain to take on increasingly greater importance in the years to come but to encourage the development of these resources and the industrialization of production processes more efficient and specialized equipment will be needed. For this precise reason, EIMA Energy has been created, a salon grouping products, technologies and services for renewable energy sources in the framework of EIMA International, the great review of machinery and equipment for agriculture organized by Unacoma Service and scheduled for November 10 to 14 at the Bologna Trade Fair Center where 1,600 manufacturing industries will be taking part. With the wealth of more than 100 industries exhibiting, the EIMA Energy Salon this year will present important new features with the participation of ENAMA, the National Agricultural Mechanization Agency, and all the other agencies representing the agricultural production chain and mechanization. Strengthened by the arrival of ENAMA – an agency committed to the bioenergy sector which recently produced the *Biomass Project* – the EIMA Energy salon will be focused on technicians and experts in the field of renewable energy sources as well as a wider audience of farmers and other end-users involved in new energy technologies. EIMA Energy will be structured to welcome producers and distributors of solid, liquid and gas biofuels and technical plant for the generation of energy from biofuels and the production of solar, photovoltaic and wind energy. The salon will be divided into two sections, static and dynamic. Pavilion 35 will house the static section on an exhibition area of 5,000 m² furnished with company stands and institutional areas for ENAMA and others involved in the production chain, including central government and regional administration representatives. The second section will be set up out-of-doors in a vast space known as area 48 of some 6,000 m² where the public can watch at work mechanical booms for handling wood, systems for the transport of vegetable residues, energy generation technologies, machinery for cutting wood and shredding raw materials and all types of machinery for the management of biomass.

The exhibition, featuring high technological and professional content, will also be aimed at the dissemination and promotion of the clean energy mentality named as a priority by the Ministries of Agricultural and Forestry Policy, the Environment and Economic Development acting as sponsors of the November trade fair event. Against this backdrop, the 2010 edition of EIMA Energy will include a heavy schedule of conferences, roundtables, seminars, teaching visits and even technical surveys of companies in the Bologna area for first-hand looks at the most interesting applications of *green* energy systems.

Rome, September 17, 2010

PRESS RELEASE