



# PNEUMOFORE and Vetrerie Meridionali a longstanding collaboration

Following his company's decision to commission three new machines from PNEUMOFORE, which specializes in vacuum systems for glass manufacturing, Glass Machinery spoke about the recent purchase to Maintenance Director Natalino Zazzera of Vetrerie Meridionali.



## TELL US ABOUT VETRERIE MERIDIONALI

The company falls within the Vinella Group and was founded in 1962. It's been part of the O-I Multinational Group since 1998 - a world leader in the hollow glass industry. In Italy we've manufactured hollow glass containers at our Castellana Grotte plant since the 60s - all for food and beverages, which includes wine, olive oil, tomato puree, water and soft drinks.

## CAN YOU SPEAK TO THE IMPACT OF VACUUM ON YOUR PRODUCTION?

Sure! Besides being very

important for the glass industry, vacuum is essential for Vetrerie Meridionali, given that we produce circa 450 tons of glass daily. Here vacuum optimizes the glass-moulding process while improving the quality of glass products in general. It also increases IS machine production speed. In our case, we've used Pneumofore machines for vacuum supply since the 70s - with the first unit, a V100 vacuum pump, installed in 1971. That continued to run non-stop until 2019, which adds up to almost nearly 50 years of ongoing efficiency.



**AND PNEUMOFORE  
MACHINES HAVE  
SINCE REMAINED  
YOUR FIRST  
CHOICE**

Indeed. The renewal and upgrading of our production lines with the installation of a new furnace in 2019 quickly necessitated innovative technology for higher efficiency and reduced environmental impact. Here again, Pneumofore proved an excellent partner precisely because its machines have been running trouble-free for decades. Not only. They require low maintenance - which is extremely important in glassmaking, since non-stop production demands constant efficiency over time. That, in a nutshell, is why we stayed with Pneumofore machines.





## VACUUM SYSTEMS

vacuum systems



### HOW ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY ARE PNEUMOFOR MACHINES?

The UV30 vacuum pump we installed back in 2001 was the first air-cooled Pneumofor model from the renowned UV Series. No water connection or water treatment is needed for these vacuum units - so with the elimination of that water consumption you already have a reduction of environmental impact right there. Then as for the three, more recently-commissioned UV24 VS37 vacuum pumps, which cater specifically to the vacuum needs of our IS machines, each is connected with a multimaster control that's based upon Danfoss Vacon Variable Speed drives. These afford an 'even workload' on all units by synchronising





## PNEUMOFORE

The name Pneumofore originates from ancient Greek and means 'Air Creator'. The company has a long history of installations in the hollow glass sector, where it currently enjoys expanding influence throughout the industrialized world. Pneumofore supplies vacuum pumps and air compressors in both high- and low- pressure versions. All its machines are built to last and are designed for a minimal Life Cycle Cost - the lowest operational cost available on the market as well as constant, decades-long efficiency for non-stop, trouble-free operation.

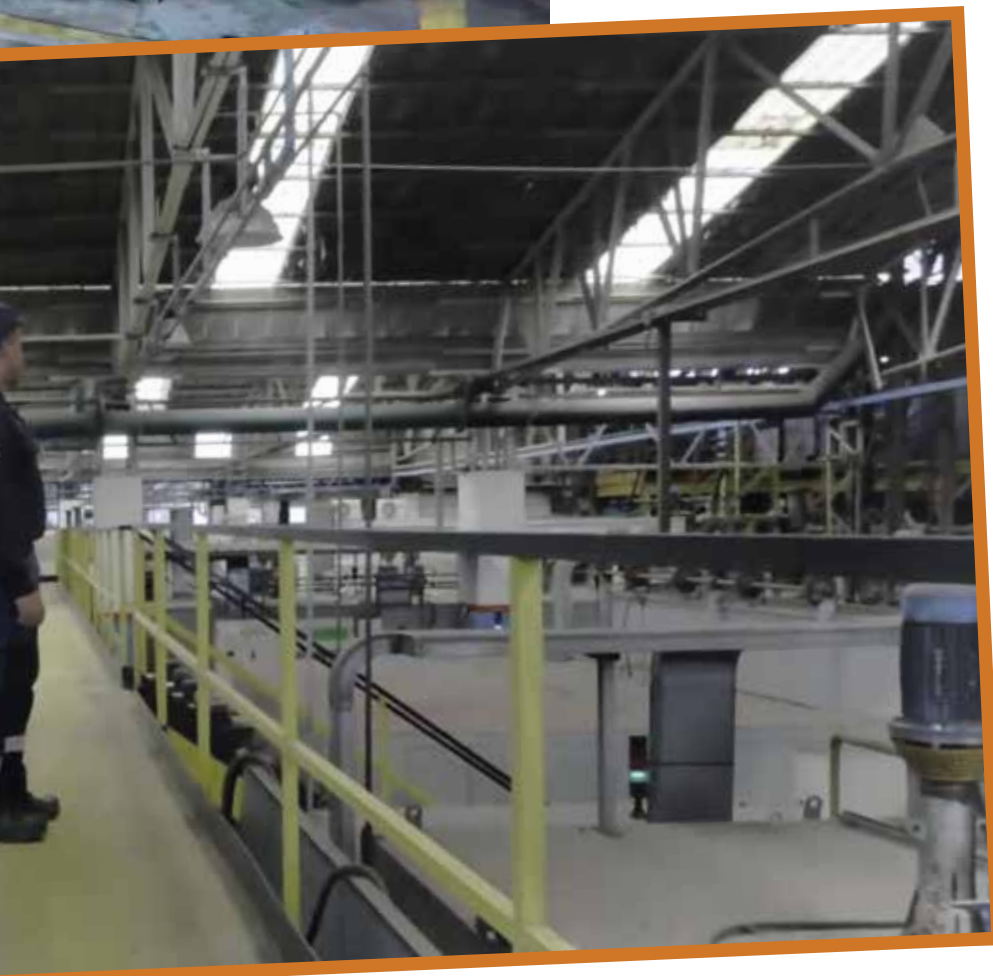
Current company President Daniel Hilfiker is the grandson of founder Jakob Hilfiker who established Pneumofore in Turin, Italy, in 1923. A Swiss national, Daniel graduated in mechanical engineering at the Swiss Federal Institute in Zurich. He is a former Pneuop Council Member (European Association for Air Compressor and Vacuum Pump Manufacturers) and a father of three who lives in Piedmont, close to the company headquarters.

energy consumption to meet actual production needs - thus lowering production costs while saving energy. With the new vacuum system, this amounts to a reduction from 90 to 60 kW, which calculates to 30% of energy savings.

### IN A NUTSHELL, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR VETRERIE MERIDIONALI?

A super question with an easy answer. In real terms it all means that we now know we can count on a company which remains totally committed towards finding the best solutions for its customers.

For the customer video testimonial on the longstanding collaboration between Pneumofore, Vetrerie Meridionali and the O-I Group, see:



**Pneumofore**

**PNEUMOFORE**

Via N. Bruno, 34  
10098 Rivoli TO  
Tel.: +39-011-950-40-30  
Fax: +39-011-950-40-40  
E-mail: [info@pneumofore.com](mailto:info@pneumofore.com)  
[www.pneumofore.com](http://www.pneumofore.com)