



PRESS RELEASE

SYNDICATED €31-MILLION CREDIT FACILITY GRANTED TO INTERPUMP GROUP FOR NEW ACQUISITIONS

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with Banco Popolare di Verona e Novara, Bipop Carire and Banca Agricola Mantovana*

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and abroad for a total of €169 million*

Milan, 17th December 2002 – Interpump Group S.p.A. announces it has signed a medium-term financing contract for a total of **€31 million**. The financing package has been structured and organised by Banca Aletti, the Banco Popolare di Verona e Novara Group's Private & Investment bank, besides Banco Popolare di Verona e Novara as the lead manager, Bipop Carire and Banca Agricola Mantovana.

The loan has a term of **18 months**. This is the fourth major operation assigned by Interpump to the Banca Popolare di Verona e Novara Group following the ITL 200-bln package in 1997, the ITL 80-bln operation in 1999 and the last operation, €60 million, announced on January 2002. The funds borrowed are earmarked for acquisition of new investments in market segments complementary to the sectors where the Interpump Group holds leadership.

The Interpump Group, a company listed in the STAR (quality small/medium caps) segment of the Milan Stock Exchange, is leader in the sectors of high-pressure pumps, oleodynamic power take-offs, and professional cleaning equipment. For the year 2002 Interpump Group expects net revenues around 485 million euros, up to 13,8% on the 426 million euros recorded for the previous year. In the last five years (1998-2002) the Interpump Group has grown constantly, with 14,4% CAGR, split into internal and external growth. In the same period the Interpump Group has completed 10 acquisitions in Italy and abroad, for a total value of €169 million.

The Interpump Group's Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Giovanni Cavallini, stated: *"The entity of resources made available for our development confirms the credibility enjoyed by the company in the market and vis-à-vis the banking industry. Our positive relationship with the Banca Popolare di Verona e Novara Group has once again held good on this occasion, thanks to counterparts particularly sensitive to matters of innovative corporate finance"*.

Mr Maurizio Faroni, Private and Finance Division Manager, Banco Popolare di Verona e Novara and Chief Executive Officer of Banca Aletti, stated his satisfaction for the concluded operation and said that *"the collaboration that Banca Aletti deserves to Interpump Group, a company we have a firm relationship with, is spanning from investment bank to equity counselling, a sector in which we are specialist on the Interpump stock. This 360° support offered to Interpump Group represents a positive example of the collaboration we can offer to those companies which, as Interpump Group, feature entrepreneurial capacity and vivacity"*.

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