

The origins of LU-VE can be traced back to the Contardo company, which was founded by the Contardo family in Milan in 1928. This pioneer of heat exchanger technology achieved a leading market position in the post war era market before it was subjected to numerous changes of ownership, beginning with the acquisition through Gould Electronics of the United States in the early 1970s.

Dr. Iginio Liberali formed LU-VE S.p.A. (which stands for "Lucky Venture") in Uboldo towards the end of 1985 following the acquisition of the Contardo Company's assets. Production commenced in January 1986, hence this year's twentieth anniversary.

Today, LU-VE S.p.A. controls the LU-VE Group which is made up of seven production companies and seven sales offices. The production takes place at Tecnaire LB Srl (Uboldo, Italy), SEST S.p.A. (Limana, Italy), SEST LU-VE Polska (Gliwice, Poland), HTS (Novosedly, Czech Republic), OOO SEST LU-VE (Lipetsk, Russia) Songjiang (Shanghai, China, a joint venture with Shanghai Century Equipment Company Ltd.) and, of course, the parent corporation itself, LU-VE S.p.A. In total, LU-VE has more than ninety thousand square metres of production space

Leading the Industry with a Passion

LU-VE S.p.A., based in Uboldo in the Italian province of Varese, has been an industry leader and pioneer in the field of heat exchanger technology for twenty years. In fact, this globally active enterprise celebrated its twentieth anniversary at this year's IKK trade fair, an event which coincided with the launch of several new products.



The company headquarters in Uboldo (Varese), in Italy

and one thousand square metres set aside for research and development. The company employs more than nine hundred and fifty members of staff around the world and exhibits a current annual turnover of approximately one hundred and sixty million Euro. Roughly 60% of this figure is generated with refrigeration products, while the remainder is grossed through the sale of air conditioning technology.

The LU-VE Group is also made up of seven commercial companies: LU-VE Contardo France S.a.r.l., LU-VE Contardo Deutschland GmbH, LU-VE Contardo Offices (Russia), LU-VE Contardo Iberica S.L., LU-VE Contardo UK & EIRE Office, LU-VE Contardo Caribe S.A., and LU-VE Contardo Pacific Pty. Ltd. (Australia).

Serving more than ninety countries across the



Dr. Iginio Liberali
The company president

globe, the group's export rate currently stands at 70%. The most important export destinations are France, Germany, Russia and Spain. Remarkably, in refrigeration and air conditioning sectors, the company holds a European market share of 20%.

The product portfolio is very comprehensive, as Dr. Matteo Liberali, Commercial Director, explains in our interview. "We offer twelve different standard product families and a host of customer-specific orders are regularly carried out. In fact, customised products account for almost a third of our business." The portfolio encompasses compact unit coolers, industrial unit coolers, compact and industrial air coolers (glycol), industrial unit coolers (NH3), "fast-freezer" special unit coolers, tubeless air-cooled condensers, air-cooled condensers, centrifugal fan-type air-cooled



LU-VE products in the Auchan department store in Luxembourg

condensers, dry coolers, water spray systems, large-capacity liquid coolers and condensers, electronic fan speed controllers and heat exchangers.

The new products presented at IKK 2006 included the BMA and SMA commercial cooler units, both angled models with brand new heat exchangers featuring energy-saving external rotor fans. These models have been designed to complement the existing BHD/SHD line of compact unit coolers.

Furthermore, LU-VE introduced two new low-noise and energy-saving product ranges, namely the SAV-EAV condensers and SAL-EAL dry coolers. Equipped with one to sixteen fans with a diameter of nine hundred and eight hundred millimetres, they offer the highest capacity at the lowest noise level

that is currently available. The SAV-EAV was awarded the Eurovent certification.

The company's EHVD condensers and EHLD dry coolers make up the new, groundbreaking "V" twin coil range, characterised by very low noise levels and high capacity. As succes-

sors to the SHVD and SHLD lines, they feature the new patented SMART

technology and the already established Safetubes System® coil tubes protection technology.

LU-VE's brand new Dry & Spray adiabatic system is the result of continuous research and engineering activities carried out at the company's laboratories and in cooperation with leading scientists at the Milan Polytechnic University (Politecnico di Milano). The system was created in order to increase the performance of air-cooled condenser and dry cooler technology; it injects/sprays treated water, a technique which dramati-

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The launch of the groundbreaking "V" twin coil range of condensers and dry coolers took place at the IKK 2006



The company presentation booth at IKK 2006

cally increases installation performance during dry operation, while at the same time reducing water and installation operating costs, water consumption and eliminating the need for water recycling and thus, the risk of legionnaire's disease.

Another accolade for 2006, was the fact that LU-VE once again obtained "Certify-All" certification

programme, Eurovent verifies if the technical data corresponds with the real-life performance and covers all products produced by the company in question.

The company is also actively carrying out research and development into HFC refrigerant replacement. HFC is one of the main contributors to the greenhouse effect and

Of course, carbon dioxide is completely different from traditional HFCs and

therefore poses a large number of problems to heat exchanger designers. Furthermore, the correct choice of heat exchanger technology is vital for obtaining a high level of efficiency at carbon dioxide plants. In cooperation with Politecnico di Milano and several key customers, LU-VE has been involved in a project aimed at defining product configurations for carbon dioxide plants and looking at the specific advantages of this refrigerant. This has resulted in a dedicated carbon dioxide product line for unit coolers and sophisticated gas coolers that replace the traditional condensers of HFC plants.



from Eurovent. Eurovent is an independent certification organisation which carries out thorough tests on refrigeration and air conditioning products. As part of the "Certify-All"

global warming. In the refrigeration sector, many attempts have been made to replace HFC with carbon dioxide, whose global warming potential is only a small fraction of HFC's.



Dr. Matteo Liberali
Commercial Director

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MANUFACTURING & SUPPLY



The company celebrated twenty years of industrial leadership at the IKK 2006

area that holds the greatest potential for us is definitely Eastern Europe." To this end, a new manufacturing facility is being set up in Lipetsk, Russia, at the time of writing; it is scheduled to start production in early

2007. This venture represents a new company, OOO SEST LU-VE, and will concentrate on the production of evaporators for refrigerated display cases and show cases for the Russian market.



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According to Dr. Matteo Liberali, further global growth is on the cards: "We intend to continue to expand our business by opening new facilities. One