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PRESS RELEASE

Bio-On S.p.A.

World's first material formulations laboratory to make MINERV PHAs advanced bioplastic

Bologna, 03 March 2016 –**Bio-on S.p.A.**, the leader in eco-sustainable chemical technologies, has created the world's first facility for developing and making **MINERV PHAs** bioplastics. It will be **reserved** to **Bio-on** technicians and managers and to the **licensees of Bio-on technology**, which make PHAs formulations to replace the majority of widely used plastics (PP, PE, PS, PC and many more).

*"We have created this innovative **production and research centre** thanks to an initial investment of **1 million Euro,** which is part of an overall commitment of **2 million Euro,** needed to meet the high number of requests from multinationals around the world who want to replace the high-polluting oil-based plastic they currently use with a biopolymer of exceptional performance and characteristics such as our **MINERV PHAs**,"* says **Bio-on** Chairman **Marco Astorri**, *"It's a commitment we have taken on in order to respond to the high demand for licenses for plants using **Bio-on**'s innovation and we think it is important to boost and spread our technology at global level."*

The project is managed by **Bio-on**'s technicians and researchers and aims to follow the same development approach as that adopted by conventional chemical companies, but with a totally eco-sustainable and naturally biodegradable end material. Thousands of types of oil-based plastics now exist for myriad different uses. Each of these is called a product **"grade"** and each one comes with its own technical datasheet. In recent months, our technicians have developed over 100 different grades, which are capable of replacing as many types of oil-based plastics. 300 million tons of high-polluting plastic are produced and sold every year. *"With this investment," explains **Bio-on** Chairman **Marco Astorri**, "our goal is to use our extraordinary product in as many applications as possible. And this is precisely what multinationals are asking us for, particularly leaders in the Automotive, Design, Packaging, Biomedical, Painting, and Diagnostic sectors."*

The end use of **MINERV PHAs** biopolymers is a very important aspect because, despite the highly automated production cycle, **Bio-on**'s technology introduces completely new concepts: a high-polluting industrial process such as that for plastic production can become eco-sustainable and environmentally friendly. "*It is not just a case of introducing new technology,"* explains **Bio-on** vice-Chairman **Guy Cicognani**, *"the history of the chemical industry will be rewritten, and that is why new **MINERV PHAs** biopolymers will lead this change*."

The new centre opened in Bologna and is added to **Bio-on**'s existing laboratories, where the first semi-industrial plant is located for PHAs production from sugar beet, sugar cane and crude glycerol (biodiesel waste).


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Bio-On S.p.A., an Italian Intellectual Property Company (IPC), operates in the bioplastic sector conducting applied research and development of modern bio-fermentation technologies in the field of eco-sustainable and completely naturally biodegradable materials. In particular, Bio-On develops industrial applications through the creation of product characterisations, components and plastic items. Since February 2015, Bio-On S.p.A. has also been operating in the development of natural and sustainable chemicals for the future. Bio-On has developed an exclusive process for the production of a family of polymers called PHAs (polyhydroxyalkanoates) from agricultural waste (including molasses and sugar cane and sugar beet syrups). The bioplastic produced in this way is able to replace the main families of traditional plastics in terms of performance, thermo-mechanical properties and versatility. Bio-On PHA is a bioplastic that can be classified as 100% natural and completely biodegradable: this has been certified by Vincotte and by USDA (United States Department of Agriculture). The Issuer's strategy envisages the marketing of licenses for PHAs production and related ancillary services, the development of R&D (also through new collaborations with universities, research centres and industrial partners), as well as the realisation of industrial plants designed by Bio-On. The alphanumeric codes for ordinary shares "ON" IT0005056236, for ordinary shares "ON" with bonus share IT0005056228 and for warrants "WARRANT Bio-On 2014-2017" IT0005056210. The minimum unit of trading envisaged by the Italian Stock Exchange is 250 shares. Company Nomad is EnVent S.p.A.. Banca Finnat Euramerica S.p.A. acts as company specialist.

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