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Refrigera Confirmed as Benchmark for Refrigeration Industry



Refrigera 2021 attracted 20% more participants than the 2019 edition

The second edition of Refrigera, the international fair dedicated to the industrial, commercial, and logistics refrigeration chain, was successfully staged at Bologna Exhibition Centre in Italy from November,

3 to 5, 2021. The event was organized by A151 in collaboration with leading sector associations such as AssoFrigoristi, Air conditioning and Refrigeration European Association (AREA), the Association of European Refrigeration Component Manufacturers (ASERCOM), Associazione Tecnici del Freddo (ATF) – refrigeration technical association, Centro Studi Galileo (CSG), and Osservatorio Interdisciplinare Trasporto Alimenti e Farmaci (OITAF) – interdisciplinary observatory for food and drug transport.

With nine main conferences, 100 speakers, and 30 hours of training sessions, Refrigera 2021 attracted

8,600 attendees, 150 national and international exhibitors, and over 250 brands, so it was a great triumph both for public turnout and for the exceptional quality of the conferences, workshops, and training sessions organized. Its 20% higher participation over the 2019 edition sent out a strong signal that the refrigeration industry is primed to restart now in facing the new challenges posed by ongoing market expansion and the shift towards environmental sustainability.

One of the main themes that emerged over the three days of conferences was how the efficient management of thermal energy is

fundamental for the future of every country, and consequently how the profession of refrigeration engineer is becoming increasingly central in the move to eco-friendly solutions, given that cold is an essential element of many supply chains.

The next edition of Refrigera will be held at Bologna Exhibition Centre from November 7 to 9, 2023.



Refrigera organizers open the show

Refrigera 2021 Special Report

Reported by
Jacques Gandini,
managing director
of Studio Gandini,
Italy



Jacques Gandini participated in Refrigera 2021 and presented the following report based on his interviews with representatives of world leading players in the refrigeration industry at the exhibition.

Davide Lenarduzzi, general manager of Refrigera Show, commented that Refrigera 2021 brought together customers and potential customers interested in learning about the latest innovations and developments in the refrigeration sector. The event was planned to be an important moment enabling sharing of technological skills with suppliers and experts through consultancy and support at every stage in design, production, and distribution. In fact, the dedicated seminars and workshops presented topics mainly focused on new production technologies, processing, and assembly, and regulations.



Davide Lenarduzzi

Davide Lenarduzzi also gave some comments on the collateral activities of the exhibition, "We were also positively surprised by the great participation in the rich program of conferences, workshops, and training sessions. We organized the event in close collaboration with the most important sector associations to ensure that thousands of visitors could have a complete update on new technologies, the latest regulations, and market development trends."

Millennium Engineering & Studio Gandini

This year, Millennium Engineering and Studio Gandini jointly launched natural refrigerant research and development (R&D) and product marketing services, which were among the main topics at Refrigera 2021.



Studio Gandini launches services on natural refrigerants with Millennium Engineering

Eng. Sandro Zanon, a natural refrigerant expert who operates as a freelance engineer for relevant players into the industry in conjunction with Millennium Engineering, is specialized in unit and plant design adopting CO₂, propane (R290), and ammonia refrigerants, commented, "According to our experience of design and innovation in the refrigeration sector, we strongly believe that refrigeration systems with natural refrigerants are predestined to meet the growing global demand for commercial, industrial, and logistics refrigeration. We also see strong demand for natural refrigerant systems in the air conditioning segment."



Sandro Zanon

Eng. Zanon continued, "That is why Millennium Engineering together with Studio Gandini launched a dedicated service on natural refrigerants for the whole heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration (HVAC&R) industry. Natural refrigerants increase the energy efficiency and optimize the cost of HVAC&R systems, and this is of great importance. We believe that many players will soon start to propose combined solutions adopting natural refrigerants. For example, in commercial refrigerated distribution, they will provide food conservation/distribution and air conditioning in summer while heating in winter, by using in part or in total the heat rejection from the food cooling and cold storage systems, realizing a more rational use of energy, a reduced carbon footprint, and lower running costs for owners and tenants at the same time."

Bitzer Italia & Green Point

Bitzer presented a very innovative format, focusing on digital solutions for modern challenges.



Pietro Domenico Trevisan

Pietro Domenico Trevisan, general manager of Bitzer Italia, commented, "AC&R system operators have to comply with many specifications due to strict efficiency regulations, sustainable operation, and increasing cost pressure. Bitzer responds to these complex challenges with intelligent electronic and digital solutions. Our intelligent products independently monitor the operating

limits of compressors, correct the compressor capacity if necessary, and communicate the operating status in real time. Users already benefit from intelligent solutions during product selection thanks to Bitzer's software. With this program, it is very easy to find the optimum solution for everyone's own application – individually, safely, and quickly. Further digital solutions facilitate the monitoring of application parameters during operation and help to decide when on-site activity is necessary and to order the appropriate spare parts promptly during maintenance. In addition, Bitzer intelligent products expand the field of application of the compressors and improve the system efficiency of entire plants. This is real added value for users and plant engineers, who can reduce their costs as a result. Intelligent products also increase safety and extend the service life of the plants."

In addition, Bitzer Group launched its new addition to the Green Point Network: Green Point Servizi Industriali.

Marco Candotti, general manager, commented, "After-sales support and services play a key role in the strategy of the Bitzer Group. With more than 50 locations globally and with this new addition in such an important market as Italy, the Green Point Network is able to deploy fast and professional services globally on all Bitzer products. In Italy, we will roll out the well-known Service Cycle, a portfolio of services



Green Point to roll out Service Cycle in Italy

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Refrigera 2021 Special Report

oriented to the Bitzer products, but we will also strongly focus on offering our customers solutions aimed at optimizing performances and consequently improving the energy efficiency of the systems. Bitzer not only sets high-quality standards for its products, but Green Point will also never compromise on the quality of its services to assist its partners."

Epta

Epta Group presented its new brand EptaTechnica, specialized in technical refrigeration solutions, making it possible to deal with every phase from design and engineering to installation and exploring the EptaService offer.

Michele Vitali, group commercial services director of Epta Group, commented, "Refrigera 2021 is an important event for Epta to share with customers and professional operators our total solutions, which combine complete, performing, and eco-friendly systems with a wide range of services. We presented for example several novelties by EptaService, in line with our claim: 'Great expertise at your service'."



Michele Vitali

Among these, the services of the Commissioning Team stood out. The team is dedicated to the direct supervision of the delicate start-up phase of refrigeration systems. The activity, originally created for large installations, now becomes accessible to all Italian customers of the brand, in order to ensure quality operation right from the start, and a reduction in maintenance operations over time.

In addition, EptaService designed the predictive maintenance service to plan maintenance operations starting from the constant evaluation of numerous parameters through the most modern tools, including infrared thermography and vibrational analysis. Thanks to structured planning, EptaService is able to implement targeted actions on the plants, making it possible to reduce maintenance costs by about 25 to 30% and breakdowns by about 70 to 75%.

EptaService also signed with LineON for another technological innovation, the digital solution for plug-in cabinets that enables advanced geolocation, theft detection, sales trend analysis, and cabinet check up services.

Frascold

Frascold is a long-standing player with a huge presence in the market, manufacturing over 70,000 compressors every year at its plant in the Milan area.



Elisa Argenta

Elisa Argenta, marketing and brand manager of Frascold, commented, "We are bringing to our customers the best state-of-the-art energy efficient ranges of blue-colored compressors, confirming our motto: 'Blue Is Better'. Every compressor we manufacture is tested before it leaves the factory and carries a standard warranty. For over 80 years, we have remained true to our values of quality, efficiency, and service. Our products and manufacturing are world class, but it is our superior customer service that enables us to obtain a leading share of the market. In addition, Frascold distribution network covers 86 countries and has subsidiaries in China, India, and the United States. Our brand has a long and consolidated history in Europe and is now successful at a global level, thanks to its proven ability to pursue quality and innovation."

Frigoveneta

Frigoveneta is a very famous Italian brand not only for high-quality refrigeration equipment but also for reliable and top-class after-sales service.



Roberto Mambrin

At the exhibition, Roberto Mambrin, shareholder of Frigoveneta, welcomed one of the company's most important customers in the multi-site supermarket stores who expressed great satisfaction with Frigoveneta's first-class monitoring service for refrigeration system management.

Roberto Mambrin commented, "Since 1980, our company has been specialized in the design and manufacturing of industrial and commercial refrigeration systems and other

innovative solutions aimed at energy efficiency. The extensive expertise gained over the years within the sector allows us to offer our customers high-performance products developed specifically for their needs."

Dorin

Officine Mario Dorin is a masterpiece in the Italian compressors industry.

Eng. Giacomo Pisano, CO₂ compressor business development manager, and Giovanni Dorin, board member, Marketing and Business Development, Dorin, commented, "Since 1918, Dorin has been offering innovative solutions for AC&R: high capabilities in design, energy efficiency and reliability that are the natural results of the best mechanical capabilities we have, and our technical know-how."

Dorin focused on CO₂ compressors at Refrigera 2021, with a huge number of new products, such as the CD600 range semi-hermetic compressors with a wide volumetric capacity that can reach 102 m³/h, the CD2S4 range two-stage semi-hermetic compressors, the Boxér range specifically designed for transport air conditioning, and the CDS range for subcritical applications. Dorin also showcased its brand-new screw range designed for hydrofluorocar-



Eng. Mario Dorin

bon (HFC) applications, covering from 337 to 543 m³/h at 50 Hz.

RAV Refrigeration

RAV is the distribution network of AC&R components in the Italian market within Vitri Alceste Group (VAG). Another two VAG group companies are Rivacold and Vitrifrigo.



Alessandro Vitri

Alessandro Vitri, VAG vice president, gave background on Rivacold Best, a new wall-mounted type packaged refrigeration system with R290 refrigerant for medium- and low-temperature cold rooms of up to 40 m³. Features of Best include complete redesign of the structural parts aimed not only at making the product aesthetically appealing, but also through the shape, the technological step reached at a functional level. Its thermodynamic circuit was completely revised with the insertion of a thermostatic valve and the reduction of the diameter of the pipes, realizing extreme efficiency, reliability, and performance. Adopting the hardware system called Riv-Olution and the new software developed internally with the Smart Defrost function, Best ensures maximum precision and stability in temperature regulation and significant energy savings, up to 21% compared with the previous generation of products. Best also has integrated connectivity that allows total control of the parameters, even remotely.

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