



## MUTTI GROUP: EXCELLENT QUALITY FOR THE 2021 TOMATO CAMPAIGN

- The favourable weather conditions have made possible to process a tomato of exceptional quality, as ever picked at the height of its maturity.
- Difficulties due to the poor availability of packaging with a consequent rise in costs.
- In 2021 the Group distributed over €6.3 million of incentives to its farmers for the selection of quality tomatoes and the adoption of best practices.
- Mutti 2021 Pomodorino D'Oro Prize: awards, not just financially, for the 64 families of Italian farmers that distinguished themselves during the campaign recently concluded.

**Montechiarugolo (PR), 28 October 2021** – The 2021 transformation campaign can be regarded as one of Mutti's best in terms of tomato quality and yield. An excellent performance from the over **800 families of Italian farmers** distributed between northern and southern Italy who supplied Mutti with **685,000 tonnes** of raw materials picked when perfectly mature. This is the result of the important planning activities that took place in the months prior to the campaign but also the excellent weather conditions that enabled production to continue unhindered. On the other hand, there was a significant increase in the cost of energy and packaging. Business was driven forward by the work of the over 1100 people trained and qualified to support production and administrative activities in the Group's three plants: Montechiarugolo (PR), Collecchio (PR), Oliveto Citra (SA). Thanks to them the transformation campaign was carried out within the traditional 70 days of perfect tomato maturity - from mid-July to the end of September - despite the delayed start caused by the unexpected frosts that took place in the spring when the first tomatoes are transplanted.

*"Our daily mission is to provide our consumers in 96 countries across the world with a top-quality product. – states **Francesco Mutti**, CEO of **Mutti Spa**. The exceptional quality of our 2021 tomato crop is the optimum starting point for us, indicative of a well-oiled machine of farmers and technical experts who plan their activities down to the finest of details for a whole year to make sure that they are not caught out by any unforeseen events. In fact, this year we had to deal with an increase in the cost of packaging but, also in this case, our suppliers managed to guarantee us the correct assortment although at higher prices. For this reason we can once again celebrate a result that does not just belong to Mutti but to the entire supply chain that our Group has managed to handle and develop over the years."*

The celebration of virtuous partnerships is also the focus of the 22nd Mutti Pomodorino D'Oro prize, an initiative launched over 20 years ago to reward the commitment and the quality tomatoes of 64 families of suppliers and consisting of a significant economic incentive - this year totalling **€300,000**, distributed between the winners - and the presentation of an iconic prize to three farmers that have further distinguished themselves in the three categories: round tomato, long tomato and cherry tomato. The three winners were **Stefania Ricci Maccarini** of Ravenna for the **round tomato**, **Antonio Cendamo** of Lesina (FG) for the **cherry tomato** and **Giuseppe Nicola De Filippo** of Manfredonia (FG) for the **long tomato**.



*“The Mutti Pomodorino D’Oro embodies two of the founding values of our Group: recognition of people and the constant quest for maximum quality – explains Ugo Peruch, Director of the Mutti Agricultural Service. Beginning with the latter, the award is the result of numerous analyses performed on every batch of tomatoes delivered. They are assessed according to multiple parameters that make it possible to measure both the intrinsic quality of the tomato (intensity, flavour, etc.) and the care that has gone into the mechanical harvesting process in terms of the integrity and the selection of the fruits at the right level of maturity and without defects. At the end of this analysis, it is possible to determine who has stood out from the crowd. In fact, the Mutti Pomodorino d’Oro forms part of a wider premium price policy applied to the purchase of the raw material with the aim of promoting the qualities of the tomato.”*

In 2021 the Group distributed **over €6.3 million of incentives to its farmers** to reward superior quality raw materials. Important figures that highlight the attention the Group focuses on its farmers, capable of continuously innovating and improving.

**MUTTI SPA** - The historic company from Parma is Europe’s leading tomato processor. It was 1899 when Marcellino and Callisto Mutti began the first tomato harvest and processing season. Since then, by focusing on the central values of quality and Italian traditions, together with a deep respect for the supply chain and the local area, the Mutti family has devoted itself to processing 100% Italian tomatoes, producing concentrate, purée and finely chopped tomatoes that are now enjoyed around the world. Meanwhile, the drive to innovate, an integral part of the company’s DNA since it was founded, has led Mutti to gradually expand its range of products with an array of ready-made sauces. Today, bolstered by 120 years of history, the Mutti Group leads the European market of tomato products and operates in 96 countries worldwide, with net revenues of 465 million euro in 2020, up by 23% on the previous year. In 2021, the Mutti Group’s production volumes reached 685,000 tonnes, an increase on the previous year (580,000 tonnes in 2020). Also in 2021 export volumes exceeded the Italian sales volumes following a double-figure growth every year. Gradually expanding over the years to satisfy all tastes, the Group has its original headquarters in Montechiarugolo, Parma. The Fiordagosto di Oliveto Citra (SA) plant, meanwhile, is used to transform the specialities typical of southern Italy, such as the long tomato and the cherry tomato. Finally, in November 2017 Mutti acquired the CO.PAD.OR plant in Collecchio, setting up the new company Pomodoro 43044 Srl which was subsequently incorporated in Mutti SpA from 1 January 2021.

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