



**Press Release**

**EL.EN. GAINS CONTROL OF LASIT**

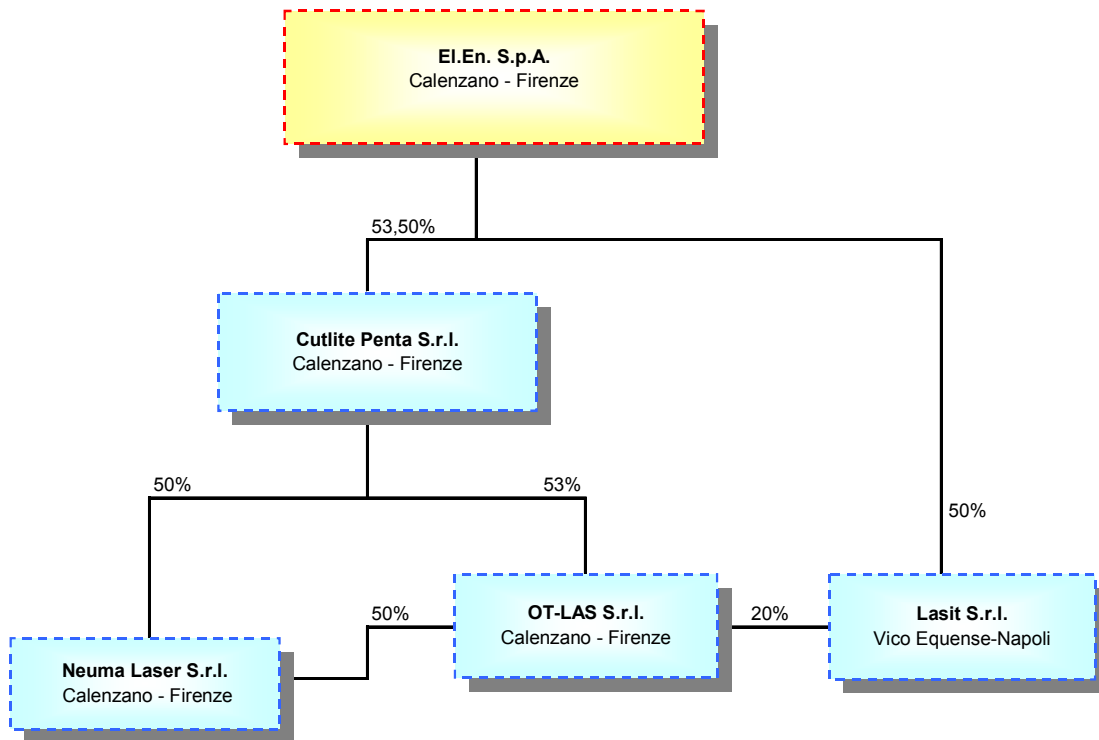
*The group strengthens its position in laser marking*

**Firenze, December 12, 2002.** El.En. Group, through the subsidiary Ot-las Srl, gained control of Lasit Srl in Vico Equense (Naples). Ot-las acquired a 20% share of Lasit for 300 thousands of euro; together with the 50% already held by El.En. Spa, the Group holds now 70% of Lasit shares.

By integrating the activities of Lasit and Ot-las, both operating in the market of laser marking systems, the El.En. Group will exploit at best the growth potential in the laser markers segment, on which the revenue increase for the first nine months of 2002 was +142%.

In the same transaction the minority shareholders of Lasit acquired 15% of Ot-las shares from Cutlite Penta Srl, for 225 thousands of euro. After this sale Cutlite Penta holds 53% of the shares of Ot-las.

The new structure of the El.En. group, for the industrial market, is the following:



Lasit ed Ot-las products are based technologies developed by each company or within the group. The segments on which each company specializes are complementary, since Lasit mainly produces Nd:YAG systems for the mechanic manufacturing industry, and Ot-las produces CO<sub>2</sub> marking systems for large surfaces for the decoration market.

The sharing of a set of modules developed during the years by Lasit and Ot-las, and the widespread adoption of the laser sources supplied by EI.En., are the starting point of a project of development and growth in the segment, which involves a significant plan of investments in materials, equipment and facilities for R&D and production.

As of November 30, 2002 sales of Ot-las were around 6 millions of euro, sales by Lasit were around 3 million of euro. The Lasit net financial position is around 200 thousands of Euro, its shareholders equity 730 thousands of euro.

*EI.En., an Italian company, is the parent of a high-tech industrial group operating in the optoelectronics sector. Based on proprietary technology and multidisciplinary know-how, the EI.En Group manufactures laser sources (gas, solid-state and liquid) and innovative laser systems for medical and industrial applications.*

*The EI.En. Group is the laser market leader in Italy and among the top operators in Europe. It designs, manufactures and sells worldwide:*

- *Medical laser equipment used in dermatology, plastic surgery, physiotherapy, dentistry and gynecology*
- *Industrial laser systems for applications ranging from cutting, marking and welding metals, wood, plastic and glass to decorating leather and textiles and restoring/conserving artworks.*

*EL.EN has been listed on the NM since December 2000. Its market floatation is approximately 30% and its market capitalization amounts to €50 million.*

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*Cod. Reuters: ELN.MI*

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