



THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SPIN FACTORY CELEBRATED BY MINISTER CLINI AND PUCCIONI, THE CHAIR OF FEDERCHIMICA

The conference on "Industrial sites: a national asset to be safeguarded" was part of the celebrations for the tenth anniversary of the opening of Spin, the Bracco Group's manufacturing plant at Torviscosa, in Friuli. "Today more than ever" said Diana Bracco, Chair and CEO of the Bracco Group, "Italy must care for its historic industrial sites, which are a national heritage of the manufacturing know-how, technological expertise, knowledge, and professionalism produced by our school and university system. Dispersing them would be a crime that could only benefit other countries. For this reason the chemical vocation of the Torviscosa site had to be safeguarded, and today it is with some pride that we can say this has been achieved, thanks to the commitment of all concerned. It is indeed a pleasure to be able to celebrate 10 years of Spin just a few days after the signature by Friulia, Bertolini, and Bracco of an agreement to construct a new modern soda chlorine facility: a technologically advanced investment in manufacturing that will generate sustainable development in the years to come."

Thanks to an enormous amount of work carried out between August 1999 and March 2002, the Bracco Group was successful in halting the decline of Torviscosa and in preserving its historic chemical manufacturing tradition.

500 workmen demolished 93 cubic metres of internal beams and 670 cubic metres of other pre-existing installations, and rebuilt 10,500 square metres of internal floor area plus a further 7,500 square metres of external areas that were restored in accordance with the constraints imposed by the *Belle Arti*, the Ministerial conservation body.

This was one of the most successful cases of industrial archaeology ever carried out in Italy, and had the honour of being selected for the Venice Architecture Biennale, where it is still on exhibition in the Italian Pavilion as a virtuous example of the relationship between manufacturing firms and their territories.

"This prestigious award" said Diana Bracco "is an excellent way of celebrating the tenth anniversary of Spin. For our part we wanted to honour this occasion not only with today's important conference, but also with an initiative dedicated to the most important asset any company can have, wherever it may be: our young people. So in collaboration with the University of Udine and with the patronage of the Udine branch of Confindustria, the Fondazione Bracco has launched a PhD in Environment and Energy. This is a further confirmation of our commitment to the next generation and is expressed in the various aspects of the Bracco "Diventerò" project aimed at young people. The three-year PhD will focus on research that simulates chemical processes for energy and environmental optimisation, and has the aim of further improving the already high environmental and sustainability standards of our outstanding Torviscosa manufacturing site.