

### Press Release

# AFTER 20 SUCCESSFUL YEARS, STEFANIA AGOSTINI LEAVES THE MANAGEMENT OF THE EVENT AND CONFERENCE DIVISION OF ITALIAN EXHIBITION GROUP

During her leadership, great achievements such as the new Palacongressi di Rimini and the development of the VICC Vicenza Convention Centre.

## She will be succeeded by Fabio De Santis

Rimini, 7 July 2020 - After twenty years of resounding success, Stefania Agostini, a long-standing figure, and well-known name in both the Italian and international congress world, leaves her position as Director of the Event and Conference division of IEG - Italian Exhibition Group. Head of the Convention Bureau della Riviera di Rimini since 2000, Agostini had previously covered managerial roles in Promozione Alberghiera, the largest hotel cooperative in Italy, and in Adria Congrex.

Under her management, the Rimini conference industry acquired extensive international visibility and appeal, in line with the extraordinary economic development and restyling of the city and the Riviera. 2011 witnessed the construction of the new Rimini conference centre, a sustainable architectural masterpiece created by GMP Studio, Hamburg. In 2016, with the birth of IEG, Agostini was also called to manage the Vicenza Conference Centre internationally recognised under the new brand, VICC. Stefania Agostini was also president of Meet in Italy, director of the Federcongressi Executive Committee for four terms and, from 2012 to the present day, president of Axis. Last autumn Agostini was appointed - and will continue to hold the position - president of Visit Rimini, the DMC set up by Destination Service (Hotel Promotion Group and IEG) to promote Rimini and its hinterland.

Stefania Agostini will be succeeded by Fabio De Santis who will head the company's conference sector for both the Rimini and Vicenza venues.

Born in Lecce in 1977, De Santis has lived in Rimini since 1995 where he graduated in Economics of Tourism in 1999. He subsequently obtained a degree in Cinema, Television and Multimedia Production and then in Visual Arts from Bologna University. His career evolved in what was originally Rimini Expo Centre - now IEG - where he began in 2000 as a project manager, subsequently taking on different roles in the company's planning and commercial development, repositioning of historical events and development of indirect fairs. In January 2018, he was appointed National Business Development Manager. Between 2018 and 2019 he was president of Prostand, an IEG subsidiary and is currently on the board of directors of the subsidiary Summertrade. Married, with one daughter, De Santis is a passionate tennis player and author of successful books dedicated to sports legends.

#### **FOCUS ON ITALIAN EXHIBITION GROUP**

Italian Exhibition Group (IEG), listed on the MTA (screen-based equities market) organised and managed by Borsa Italiana S.p.A., is a leader in Italy in the organisation of trade fairs and one of the main operators in the trade fair and conference sector at European level, with structures in Rimini and Vicenza, as well as further sites in Milan and Arezzo. The IEG Group is notable in the organisation of events in five categories: Food & Beverage; Jewellery & Fashion; Tourism, Hospitality and Lifestyle; Wellness, Sport and Leisure; Green & Technology. In the last few years, IEG started a significant expansion process abroad, also through the conclusion of joint ventures with local operators (for example, in the United States, Arab Emirates and in China). IEG closed the 2019 financial year with consolidated total revenues of € 178.6 million, an EBITDA of € 41.9 million and a consolidated net profit of € 12.6 million. In 2019, IEG totalled 48 organised or hosted fairs and 190 conferences. www.iegexpo.it

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