

Rome, 11 August 2009

## **Launch of the fourth Finmeccanica “FHINK” Master Over 7000 applications received from 130 countries**

Following the success of the first three “FHINK” Master in International Business Engineering programmes, Finmeccanica is ready to launch the 4th edition.

Over 15,000 young people from around the world (recent graduates or people with a maximum of 2 years’ work experience) submitted applications for the Master’s programme in the first three years. Over 7,100 applications have been received from 130 countries for the fourth programme. 4,600 (65%) of these fulfil the requirements for the selection process.

Many of these young people have excellent degrees, mostly in Engineering but also in Economics, Physics and Mathematics. They are all currently competing for 30 scholarships (each worth 29,000 euro approximately) provided by Finmeccanica to cover all their tuition costs and their stay in Rome.

The 4th programme, which is due to take place in Rome between October 2009 and September 2010, includes an intensive period of classroom training lasting 8 months and a 4-month long internship in one of the Group’s companies, in Italy and overseas.

The collaboration with prestigious international university partners, such as Imperial College, London, the Polytechnic of Valencia, Kellogg University, etc., will guarantee integrated and systematic coverage of *Project Management, International Sales, Innovation and Business Development, Technology and Operations Management* over a total of around 1,500 hours of teaching and on-the-job training.

The “FHINK” Master’s programme is an ambitious project by which Finmeccanica is testing an innovative way of training people as International Business Engineers, a function that is highly sought after by companies operating on a worldwide scale. For young people, it is a unique opportunity to grow, which successfully integrates business administration skills with academic ones, while also supporting the development of crossover skills.

This initiative places Finmeccanica on an equal footing with the most prestigious international business schools in terms of the number of applications received, and has also turned out to be an interesting international Employer Branding tool for the Group.

Thanks to the Master’s programme, over 90 young qualified people from different countries have joined Finmeccanica’s Operating Companies.

The Master’s programme is only the first step in the integrated and international Training and Development System that supports and guides the professional development of the Group’s personnel, from young new recruits to senior managers. It acts as a permanent testing “laboratory”, offering each individual the opportunity to grow entirely based on the merit, both professionally and personally.

For further information, visit [www.finmeccanica.com/fhink](http://www.finmeccanica.com/fhink).