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# Press Release

15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

**ITALIAN EXHIBITORS WILL NOT BE AT GLASSTEC: WE MUST DEAL WITH THE FACTS, ESPECIALLY WITH SECOND WAVE OF THE PANDEMIC SPREADING. Commenting on the position sent to all its members and published on the association's website, GIMAV President Michele Gusti clarified: "regretfully, at a time like this, we must tell it like it is"**

Wednesday, October 14, 2020, GIMAV sent an official announcement to its members that, along with this statement, is expanded to include all those who might have an interest in the matter.

In the notice, the Association of Italian Manufacturers and Suppliers of Machinery, Plants and Systems, Accessories and Special Products for Glass Processing announced, to the benefit of all the exhibitors and visitors who might attend the Düsseldorf show, COVID-19 permitting, that an overwhelming majority of the Italians intend to not participate in the 2020 edition of Glasstec postponed by the organizers until June 15-18, 2021.

In addition to the openly expressed desire to support VITRUM, the international trade show that promotes Italy's excellence in the glass industry, many factors influenced this choice – from the peculiar dates of the rescheduled German show, to the major international players deciding to forgo the event, not to mention the lingering difficulties caused by COVID 19.

In delivering the position statement to the media, President Gusti made explicit reference to this not insignificant "underlying condition". *"Even though we regret doing this, because we are aware of all the work the organizers have done, it is our duty",* commented Gusti, *"to inform all of the stakeholders of that which, in discussions with our members, emerged as a fact."*

*All the more reason, as every day we are inundated with data regarding the still uncontrolled spread of the pandemic in Europe and around the globe, that the current situation calls for caution in making investments and the utmost care in safeguarding the health of our clients and partners."*