

TESMEC AND POLITECNICO DI BARI: STRATEGIC AGREEMENT STRENGTHENING THE COLLABORATION BETWEEN RESEARCH AND INDUSTRY IN RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE INNOVATION

- *The agreement, which strengthens the collaboration in the field of applied research between the University and the Group, aimed at developing specialist expertise for the railway infrastructure of the future, was signed yesterday at the Rector's Office of Politecnico di Bari in the presence of Rector Umberto Fratino and the Group CEO, Caterina Caccia Dominioni.*
- *The collaboration between the Apulian University, an integral part of Italy's railway expertise, and Tesmec centre of excellence in the Railway sector lays the foundations for the development of advanced expertise, focused on sustainable and digital innovation in railway infrastructure and on potential expansion into international markets*

Bari, 22 July 2026 – **Tesmec S.p.A.**, (EURONEXT STAR MILAN: TES) ("Tesmec" or the "Company"), at the head of a group leader in the market of technologies for infrastructures (overhead, underground and railway networks) related to the transport of energy, data and materials, through its subsidiary Tesmec Rail Srl, strategic railway hub based at its Monopoli and Bitetto sites, and **Politecnico di Bari**, an institution with a strong focus on engineering, applied research and technology transfer in support of the manufacturing sector, announce the signing of a three-year collaboration agreement aimed at developing joint engineering projects in the fields of railway innovation, sustainability and the digitalisation of railway infrastructure.

The signing ceremony took place yesterday at Politecnico di Bari, in the presence of **Umberto Fratino**, Rector of the Politecnico di Bari, and **Mariagrazia Dotoli**, Full Professor of Automation Engineering. Representing Tesmec Group were **Caterina Caccia Dominioni**, Group CEO; **Numa Pelizzoli**, HR Director; **Gianfranco Mancini** and **Gianluca Fumarola**, Group representatives in the field of railway construction, maintenance and diagnostics.

The agreement comes from a shared vision: strengthening the dialogue between academia and industry to nurture scientific expertise, design capabilities and industrial know-how. The initiative launched by Tesmec and Politecnico di Bari aims to serve as a practical tool to support applied research and the development of advanced technological solutions, contributing to the growth of an ecosystem capable of generating value for the Apulia region and for the national industrial sector.

The agreement provides for collaboration between the parties involved to ensure the monitoring, coordination and oversight of initiatives deployed through specific implementation agreements, primarily relating to two key strategic priorities: the development of innovative, environmentally friendly rolling stock for the construction, maintenance and diagnostics of railway infrastructure; and the design of diagnostic systems and data management platforms for infrastructure monitoring.

Thanks to the Politecnico di Bari, the Apulia region reaffirms its status as a strategic region for the country's railway activities. Tesmec collaboration with the University on various projects carried out in the region, made possible by the in-depth expertise the Group has developed within its Railway Division at its strategic hub in Puglia, further strengthens the link between research and industrial application, fostering the development of high-tech projects closely aligned with the sector's needs.

Caterina Caccia Dominioni, CEO of Tesmec, commented: *"The Framework Agreement with Politecnico di Bari marks an important step towards strengthening the relationship between industrial innovation, applied research and the local area. Puglia plays a strategic role in our railway operations, and our collaboration with a university of excellence such as Politecnico di Bari enables us to develop an even more structured approach to sustainable and digital technologies for the future of railway infrastructure. The aim is to build, drawing on the expertise available in the region and the experience of our sites in Monopoli and Bitetto, a model of collaboration between university and industry, capable of generating value on international markets as well."*

Umberto Fratino, Rector of the Politecnico di Bari, commented as follows: *"The agreement signed with Tesmec is significant for us because it is a leading company in key innovative sectors such as railway infrastructure logistics. Tesmec is a company that originates from a different regional context, which has decided to invest here in Puglia to develop new technology, in a region where our University serves as a cornerstone. This brings high value to us because it recognises the quality of our graduates and of the education they receive. It is no coincidence that over 80 per cent of the engineers at Tesmec Rail Srl, Tesmec Group subsidiary in Puglia, are graduates coming from our university. With this agreement, which marks the beginning of a journey already underway, Politecnico di Bari proudly demonstrates to be an example for companies from other parts of the country as well."*

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Tesmec Group

Tesmec Group is active in the design, production and marketing of systems and integrated solutions for the construction, maintenance, and diagnostics of infrastructures (overhead, underground and railway networks) for the transport of energy, data and materials (oil and derivatives, gas and water), as well as technologies for quarries and surface mining. The Group operates in the following sectors: - Energy. Tesmec Group designs, manufactures, and markets machines and integrated systems for the construction and maintenance of overhead and underground power lines, fibre optic networks (Stringing segment), as well as advanced equipment and systems for the automation, efficiency, management and monitoring of high, medium and low voltage electrical networks and substations (Energy Automation Segment); - Trencher. Tesmec Group carries out the design, production, sale and rental of trencher machines functional to four types of activities (excavation and mines, excavations for the installation of pipelines, for the construction of telecommunication and optical fibre infrastructures, excavations for the construction of underground power networks), as well as the provision of specialized excavation services. The trencher machines are rented by the Group both with the operator (hot rental or wet rental) and without the operator (cold rental or dry rental); - Railway. The Group designs, manufactures and markets machines and integrated systems for the installation and maintenance of the railway catenary, devices for the diagnostics of the railway catenary and track, as well as customized machines for special operations on the line.

Born in Italy in 1951, the Group counts on more than 900 employees and has its production sites in Grassobbio (Bergamo), Sirone (Lecco), Monopoli (Bari) and Bitetto (Bari) in Italy, Alvarado (Texas) in the USA and Durtal in France. It relies on three research and development units in Fidenza (Parma), Padua and Patrica (Frosinone). Listed on the

EURONEXT STAR MILAN of the Euronext Milan market of the Italian Stock Exchange, the Group boasts a global commercial presence through foreign subsidiaries and sales offices in the USA, in South Africa, West Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Russia, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and China. In its development strategy, the Group intends to consolidate its position as a solution provider in the three abovementioned business areas, by exploiting the trends of energy transition, digitalization, and sustainability.

Politecnico di Bari

Politecnico di Bari is a science and technology university founded in 1990; it is the youngest of the three Italian polytechnics and the only one in central and southern Italy. It offers degree programmes in Engineering, Architecture and Industrial Design. The university has around 11,000 students spread across its campuses in Bari and Taranto and comprises five departments:

DEI (Department of Electrical and Information Engineering)

DMMM (Department of Mechanics, Mathematics and Management)

'Michelangelo Merlin' Inter-University Department of Physics

ICAR (Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture)

DICATECH (Department of Civil, Environmental, Land-Use, Construction and Chemical Engineering).

The Polytechnic University of Bari is recognised as a centre of excellence for education and research in the fields of engineering, architecture and industrial design. It stands out for its strong ties to the local area and its commitment to sustainable development and technological innovation. The university promotes a practice-oriented approach to teaching and collaboration with local, national and international businesses and institutions. It trains professionals to high standards in the fields of engineering, architecture, design and spatial planning, awarding academic qualifications including university diplomas and bachelor's degrees (under the old system, until existing courses are completed), bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, PhDs, with the corresponding academic qualifications, as well as first- and second-level master's degrees.