

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **ANTARES VISION GROUP TECHNOLOGIES HELP RAVIOLIFICIO SCOIATTOLO DOUBLE ITS QUALITY GUARANTEE: LONGER SHELF LIFE, MORE SUSTAINABILITY, AND FEWER RECALLS**

#### **FT System inspection systems with IR spectroscopy technology have improved detection of micro-holes and helped ensure correct product labeling, enhancing quality control and reducing waste**

A **micro-hole in packaging** results in **reduced product shelf life** and has other negative **impacts on quality**. For example, micro-holes in modified atmosphere packaging (MAP) can result in the formation of **mold, color changes, and flavor alteration**, which could trigger a product **recall** or **withdrawal** and result in **economic losses** and **damage to the brand's reputation**.

To combat these risks, the fresh pasta company **Scoiattolo** has implemented **IR spectroscopy** developed by Antares Vision Group with technology from FT System **for in-line control of micro-holes**. The machine also **verifies that mandatory product information is correct on labels and barcodes**, such as expiry date and lot code. An error in mandatory labeling data leads to a recall or the withdrawal of the goods from the market, affecting **brand reputation**, creating **disposal costs**, and even **legal costs** in the event of disputes.

Scoiattolo's decision to choose AV Group – a technological partner of excellence in digitalization and innovation offering a complete ecosystem of technologies to guarantee product quality and end-to-end traceability along the supply chain through integrated data management – has proven to be wise: The company **reduced instances of non-compliance** due to micro-holes and incorrectly sealed packages by approximately **45 percent** (September-December 2022 vs. September-December 2021).

"The adoption of this solution was evaluated within a larger project aimed at improving production flows", explained **Giacomo Tamborini, Innovation & EDP Manager of Scoiattolo**. "We chose the FT System inspection solution after analyses, discussions with Antares Vision Group and the operational staff in our packaging department, and various tests carried out on sample productions. The system, with IR spectroscopy, has allowed us to achieve quick and complete identification of possible non-conformities in our pasta packages, a further guarantee of the quality of our processes".

The real innovation, Tamborini said, was **non-destructive inspection** for micro-holes, which enables the **same measurements to be repeated on all packages** and has positive impact on **sustainability**. The technology replaces the destructive sampling methods traditionally used for quality control of MAP products, reducing the amount of packaging destined to become waste.

"We've realized a strong reduction of non-conformities deriving from holes and cracks", Tamborini said. "As with any investment, we evaluated the return on investment during preliminary phases; after consideration, Scoiattolo decided to proceed with the introduction of the AV Group technology to further increase the quality of our production processes, which is an essential and central theme for us".

Tamborini added that Scoiattolo had made clear improvements in its **fight against waste**. "Having precise statistics relating to waste and its related causes allows us to intervene in a timely manner, reducing the percentages within the packaging department".

#### **About Antares Vision Group**

Antares Vision Group is **technology partner** in digitalization and innovation for companies, institutions and governments, guaranteeing safety and quality, sustainability and efficiency of products and supply chains to build trust.

It provides a **unique and integrated ecosystem of technologies** – including software and hardware – to guarantee product quality (inspection systems and equipment) and end-to-end traceability (from raw materials to production, from distribution to the consumer), through connected data management, applying artificial intelligence and blockchain.

AV Group is active in the **Life Science** (pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and hospitals), **Beverage, Food, Cosmetics, Chemicals** and **Packaging** and potentially in many other industries. The world leader in track and trace solutions for pharmaceutical products, it provides major global pharma manufacturers (more than 50% of the Top 20 multinationals) and several government authorities with solutions to monitor their supply chains and validate product authenticity.



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Listed since April 2019 on the Italian Stock Exchange in the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) segment and from 14 May 2021 in the STAR segment of the Mercato Telematico Azionario (MTA) (electronic equity market), AV Group recorded a turnover of Euro 223.5 million in 2022, operates more than 60 countries, employs more than 1,100 people, and has a consolidated network of around 40 international partners.

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