



Official Opening

2 November 2020

## New TÜV SÜD Testing Laboratory in Volpiano

Volpiano (Turin). TÜV Italia, the Italian subsidiary of TÜV SÜD, officially opened its new technological testing laboratory in Volpiano near Turin on 30 October. The new laboratory now houses the laboratories of TÜV Italia and Bytest at a single site. Its state-of-the-art buildings accommodate equipment for product testing, non-destructive testing and various tests and analyses for the industrial sector.



“The opening of the new testing laboratory shows that we are committed to our location in Italy and sends an important signal to our customers here and throughout Western Europe – especially in these difficult times of pandemic and challenging economic environment. My thanks go to all those involved who made this possible”, said Axel Stepken, Chairman of the Board of Management of TÜV SÜD, commenting on the event. “We are proud to create new jobs and secure existing ones. Our ultra-modern facility meets the highest demands of our customers and accompanies them along the path of their developments, giving them certainty and inspiring trust.”

TÜV SÜD's activities in product, material and component testing have been a hallmark of the company since its foundation in 1866. Today TÜV SÜD is one of the world's best-known certification, inspection, testing and training institutions and an international beacon of technical reference. For TÜV Italia and

TÜV SÜD alike, independence is an important pillar of credibility and authority, and is of essential value both for their client companies and for the market as a whole.

Founded in 1987, TÜV Italia has adopted this DNA. Over the years TÜV Italia has worked to develop testing activities in Italy while acquiring skills and appropriate testing facilities. TÜV Italia's laboratories were opened in 1998 after. This was followed in 2012 by the acquisition of Bytest, a laboratory dedicated to the testing of materials used in the manufacture of industrial products. Over the years, TÜV Italia has evolved into a reference hub for testing activities at both national and European level. The company offers specific areas of technological expertise that are indispensable for companies facing complex industrial challenges and global markets.

In keeping with the spirit of this tradition, TÜV Italia is now taking another important step forward with the opening of its new testing laboratory in Volpiano. The premises bring together the laboratories of TÜV Italia and Bytest, which were previously located at different sites in Piedmont.

The decision to develop this project resulted from an in-depth assessment of the trends on the TIC (Testing, Inspection, Certification) market on which TÜV Italia operates. The adoption of new and more complex international product safety regulations leads to an increase in demand for testing and inspection, which companies tend to outsource in order to concentrate on their core business. The data confirm that this trend is subsequently generating an increase in demand for testing carried out by independent external laboratories.

The project itself was launched in summer 2019 and completed in record time, despite the slowdown caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. It has led to radical restructuring and transformed the site into what it is today: one of the largest independent test laboratories in Europe, the largest in Italy, and a reference hub for even the most advanced and modern companies across all industries.

Oliver Jacob, CEO of TÜV Italia and CEO TÜV SÜD Western Europe, affirms, "We are very proud that the project was implemented on schedule and the laboratory is now ready for operation. TÜV SÜD decided to invest in total around 15 million euros in the project during these challenging times because the company has firm faith in Italy's ability to continue developing and advancing its industrial capabilities for the future."

In total, the new laboratory covers an area of 8,000 square metres, divided into an office building of 2,000 square metres and another 6,000-square-metre building which houses the numerous test facilities

and more than 250 employees. Between these two state-of-the-art structures is a large, modern semi-anechoic chamber for electromagnetic compatibility testing and a new bunker for non-destructive radiographic tests. The new laboratory itself is divided into several areas housing the laboratories where tests are carried out on a wide range of products and the facilities for destructive and non-destructive testing and for various other tests and analyses in the industrial sector.

The project to bring together laboratories from different sites at a single location is part of TÜV Italia's strategy to bundle activities and develop new synergies to offer a one-stop-shop for customers. Indeed, this new testing laboratory offers all the facilities e.g. for the aerospace, automotive and oil and gas industries to carry out a wide range of tests that meet their specific needs, plus the expertise of the technicians who perform these tests – all at a single site.

### **About the TÜV Italia laboratories**

TÜV Italia's laboratories are accredited for a series of tests by Accredia, IECEE (International Commission on the Rules for the Approval of Electrical Equipment) and ZLS (Zentralstelle der Länder für Sicherheitstechnik). They offer companies reliable and expert support throughout all phases of product development, enabling them to meet the requirements of the directives and regulations in force in the various markets, so that manufacturers and distributors can place products on global markets that are in compliance with the relevant standards.

TÜV Italia laboratories carry out the following tests:

- Electrical safety
- Mechanical safety
- Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC)
- High frequency (RED)
- Environmental impact
- Vibration stress
- Transportability

The range of products covered by these tests is very wide:

- Information technology
- Industrial, scientific and electro-medical products
- Household appliances, electrical and similar instruments
- Mechanical, electrical or pneumatic tools for hobby or professional use
- Aviation and aerospace units and components

- Electrical units and components for automotive applications (chassis, tanks, control units, lights)
- Vehicles with two or more wheels
- Playgrounds, toys
- Stairs, TV stands, bathroom furniture, shelving, garden furniture, plastic containers
- Car accessories (roof racks, ski racks, snow chains)
- Children's products (standing boards for buggies, bicycle child seats)
- Sporting goods (fitness equipment for gyms and home gyms)
- Cycle accessories (handlebars, frames, forks)

In addition to product testing, the laboratories also provide a host of other services, including product certification in compliance with the relevant directives, issuing of the TÜV SÜD octagon certification mark, CE marking and inspection and verification activities on products and points of sale, homologation of automotive components, technical assistance throughout the process of product realisation from design to marketing.

### **About Bytest Laboratories**

Bytest is a leader in the fields of non-destructive testing (NDT) and laboratory testing of metallic materials frequently used in high-tech industries such as aerospace, energy, oil and gas, automotive and railway.

Accredited by Nadcap (National Aerospace and Defense Contractors Accreditation Program) and certified according to ISO 9001 and AS9100, the objective of non-destructive testing performed by Bytest is to understand the behaviour of materials when exposed to particular stresses, in order to avoid the risk of injury, breakage and defects. This is a diagnostic process that leads to the identification of possible anomalies on the surface or within the tested products. It is often applied to aerospace structures, helicopter components, aircraft engines, wind turbines, gas pipelines and complex power generation equipment without damaging them. Thanks to Bytest's experience, it is possible to test both metal alloys and composite material parts in its laboratories.

The methods used to perform non-destructive testing by Bytest are:

- Radiography
- Computed tomography
- Ultrasound both manual and automatic
- Magnetic particles
- Penetrating liquids

- Visual examination
- Induced currents
- Leak detection
- Nital Etch

Testing is carried out by Bytest engineers with level 3 certification according to SNT-TC-1A and/or UNI EN 473. They are qualified for the aerospace sector according to EN 4179/NAS 410. Their test instruments are constantly updated with the latest-generation software and periodically calibrated. In addition to non-destructive testing, Bytest also carries out a wide range of accredited mechanical tests, technological tests, chemical and metallographic analyses. In addition to the above-mentioned industries, the tests carried out by Bytest laboratories are also of interest to companies operating in pipe laying, mechanical assembly work, industrial plant overhaul and assembly, iron and steel industry and manufacturing industry.

Thanks to the expertise of its engineers, Bytest combines its testing activities with a rich training programme. It is also an examination centre recognised by the CICPND (Centro italiano di coordinamento per le prove non distruttive) for the qualification of personnel involved in CND, mechanical, physical, technological and metallographic testing.

**Photo captions:**

- 1 Entrance area with view to the new TÜV SÜD Testing Laboratory in Volpiano.
- 2 View inside the Ultrasonic Laboratory.

**Note for editorial staff:** The press release and high-resolution photos can be found on the Internet at <https://www.tuvsud.com/newsroom>.

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Founded in 1866 as a steam boiler inspection association, the TÜV SÜD Group has evolved into a global enterprise. More than 25,000 employees work at over 1.000 locations in about 50 countries to continually improve technology, systems and expertise. They contribute significantly to making technical innovations such as Industry 4.0, autonomous driving and renewable energy safe and reliable. [www.tuvsud.com](http://www.tuvsud.com)

**TÜV Italia** is part of the TÜV SÜD group and has been present in Italy since 1987. TÜV Italia has over 600 employees and a network of 400 partners, with several offices operating at national level, as well as the laboratories of Scarmagno (TO) and Bytest, in Volpiano (TO) and Benevento, and pH in Tavarnelle Val di Pesa (FI), which were acquired in January 2012 and January 2013 respectively. TÜV Italia periodically organises webinars and free seminars on the latest technical topics besides holding numerous vocational training courses devoted to enhancing and developing skills and expertise in all areas in which the organisation operates. [www.tuv.it](http://www.tuv.it)