

Focus on Education:

Mitsubishi Electric and the University of L'Aquila collaborate on an innovative academic path for Mechanical Engineering Master Students

Milan, 18 December 2019 – Training, in all its forms has an increasingly strategic role within the Italian production system. It not only involves preparing young people to enter the workforce with adequate qualifications, but also companies who seek to keep their employees and customers continually updated in order to remain competitive in their markets.

That's why one the responsibilities of Mitsubishi Electric is to take an active **part in the process of training the younger generations** through programs both inside and outside of its own business realm. The aims of this training include involving young people by sharing their values and offering guidance and qualifications, helping them to prepare for new challenges at work.

Building on their previous experience, **the Factory Automation division of the Italian branch of Mitsubishi Electric Europe B.V., within the *AcadeMy project*, has developed a course with the University of L'Aquila (Univaq).** The goal of the course is to align the skills that first and second year students acquire during their study for a Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering with those required today in the world of work, helping them to develop a wider ability to interact with businesses in the Italian economic environment.

The didactic proposal made by Univaq and Mitsubishi Electric was conceived in particular to support the development of **technical skills** for future engineers. This is delivered via laboratory activities and demonstrations with the use of specific technical equipment such as 'Motion Control', an integrated system of technologies and devices capable of governing extremely complex industrial processes, particularly where increasingly high precision is required.

The first part of the course includes a training introduction delivered by e-learning, followed by a seminar and a demonstration session in the lab. The second part of the course is dedicated to the presentation of CNC solutions applied to machine tools and EIA ISO CNC programming. This part takes place

in December, offering continuity to the technical path undertaken by the students.

"This direct approach between students and the company has been realised thanks to the collaboration with Mitsubishi Electric, and aims to become a system to measure the students' skills and their ability to understand different methods and languages from that to which they are accustomed, and which they have yet to experience in their University career," commented **Pierluigi Beomonte Zobel, professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of L'Aquila**. "It is important that young people are trained with a high degree of qualification, in line with technological changes and with the characteristics required by companies, so that they can fit into the Italian business economy."

"For Mitsubishi Electric, delivering training at all levels of the education system is an essential element to provide students with technical skills and up-to-date abilities, allowing them to integrate into the world of work," says Alessandro Munari, Academy Education Coordinator at Mitsubishi Electric. "The practical activities carried out in the lab with the support of the Motion Control demonstration kits, allow the participants to acquire specific technical knowledge in the automation field, which is increasingly required by companies such as ours".

The joint project between Mitsubishi Electric and Univaq was conceived with the aim of focusing on the city of L'Aquila, **one of the symbolic places of rebuilding following the 2009 earthquake**. The University of L'Aquila has been able to determinedly resume its mission, and to regain the social and educational role that it deserves by satisfying the educational and training needs of the region, and to build future Italian business leaders.



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Mitsubishi Electric

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world, Mitsubishi Electric in the past fiscal year ended on March 31st 2019 reached a total turnover of 4,519.9 billion Yen (40.7 billion USD*). In Europe it is present since 1969 with branches in 18 Countries: Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Spain, Slovakia, Sweden, Turkey and United Kingdom. The Italian branch, established in 1985, operates through 5 commercial divisions: **Air-Conditioning** – air-conditioning for residential, commercial and industrial real estate, heating, de-humidification and air treatment; **Industrial Automation and Mechatronics** – systems and appliances for industrial automation; **Semiconductors** – electronic components; **Automotive** – systems and components for control of car and motor vehicle devices; **Transport** – products and systems for railway transport.

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*(*rate of Exchange: 111 Yen - 1 USD. Source Tokyo Exchange Market on 31.03.2019)*