

## Electronics industry in Bologna

The electronics industry in Bologna consists of around 1,500 businesses, equalling 27% of businesses region-wide and almost 3% nationwide, with over 16,000 employees (37% of the regional total, 3.6% of the national total). There are 10 businesses with more than 250 employees in the areas of electrical machines and devices (7% of the national total of businesses with over 250 employees) and medical and high-precision devices (7.9%).

### Export

Third sector for export value (over 1 billion euros, equalling 38% of the regional total and 3.5% of the national total).

### Main markets

EU15, Central Eastern Europe (growing), Far East and North America.

The internationalisation of Bolognese business is considerable, with companies having a presence in all emerging markets and overseas multinational groups choosing Bologna as a location where to develop their products.

### World leadership

Bolognese companies have specialist expertise in

- motors, generators and electric transformers
- valves, tubes and other electronic components
- medical, surgical and orthopaedic devices
- measuring, control, testing devices (not including industrial process test equipment)

Among the sector's leading companies, the foremost are **Datalogic**, the biggest European producer of barcodes and RFID systems; **Marposs**, world leader in the manufacture of measuring and testing equipment; **Arcotronics**; **OVA**, recently bought over by **Schneider Electric**.

### Research and training

The University of Bologna is the sector's traditional point of reference. It is home to numerous centres, departments and institutes with both teaching and research functions, such as:

- DEIS (electronics, computer sciences and systems)
- DIE (electrical engineering)

There are also a number of Bolognese **research institutes and centres** focusing on electronics:

- CNR-IEIIT (electronics, information and telecommunications engineering, founded by CNR)
- ARCES (research on electronic systems for information and telecommunications engineering)
- CASY (complex automated systems)

- Net-lab (research labs and technological transfer), with 7 labs in Bologna alone

#### **Centres of innovation**

- T3Lab (Bologna's technological transfer centre)
- Marconi Wireless (wireless innovation centre)

A vital role is also played by the **Guglielmo Marconi Foundation**, with its school for advanced training in radiocommunications engineering.

#### **Sector-related fairs in Bologna**

- Industrial IT, international exhibition and conference on integrated systems for industrial enterprise manufacturing and control
- Lamiera, a biennial exhibition organised by ICIMU focusing on the vast field of metalforming machines, including electrical and electronic devices for machine tools and measuring devices
- Research to Business, a unique and internationally renowned Italian appointment presenting new technological innovation proposals, research projects, prototypes and applications to be launched onto the market, as well as services addressed to entrepreneurs, R&D managers and investors interested in supporting technology transfer operations.