

GFBiochemicals under Canada's spotlight

Caserta, 20th September 2016 – Jeff Passmore, CEO of Passmore Group Inc., a leading consulting firm in the bioeconomy sector, visited the plant of GFBiochemicals, the first world producer of levulinic acid and derivatives from biomass at industrial scale, in Caserta (Campania Region, Italy) yesterday. GFBiochemicals was founded in 2008 by the entrepreneurs Pasquale Granata and Mathieu Flamini, who invested in levulinic acid as a viable substitute of petrol derivatives products.

The delegation, composed by Jeff Passmore and Anita Baidwan, Chief Secretary of the Embassy of Canada, visited the Caserta plant with the aim of evaluating the possibility of investments and the opportunities of commercial partnerships, identifying market potentials and foreseeable developments. The uniqueness of GFBiochemicals lies in the production process of levulinic acid, through a property technology that enables its production at industrial scale in a one-step process from several cellulosic materials. This method allows a cost- competitive production and can successfully address several performance-related issues attributed to petroleum-based chemicals and materials in a wide range of sectors, like plasticizers and biopolymers, perfumery, beauty care, home and industrial cleaning, agrochemical and adhesives.

Pasquale Granata, co-founder of GFBiochemicals, said: "Canada is one of the countries investing the most in bioeconomy, with more than 3,000 people employed in the sector and more than 1.3 billion euros revenue. We are pleased to have attracted the attention of one of the major consultants of the Country within the framework of the development and commercialization of technologies in bioeconomy and sustainability. GFBiochemicals intends to continue its investments on the road of sustainable development: with our plants of Caserta and Minnesota and our international presence, we entered, supporting bioeconomy, in some of the major markets, expecting that this sector could represent the most significant trend for the future global market".

GFBiochemicals

GFBiochemicals is the largest producer at a global level of levulinic acid at commercial scale directly from biomass. The company has a unique set of proprietary technologies that allow levulinic acid and formic acid production with a one-step process directly from a wide range of cellulosic feedstock. GFBiochemicals has an international presence employing more than 50 people with headquarters in Milan, Italy, R&D and commercial office in Geleen, The Netherlands and production sites in Caserta, Italy, and Minnesota, USA.