



## **AQUAFIL S.P.A.: NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' COMPLIANCE WITH INDEPENDENCE REQUIREMENTS VERIFIED**

Milan, December 4, 2017. The newly formed Board of Directors of Aquafil S.p.A. convened today and verified that Non-executive Directors, on the basis of the information they provided (including the forms they completed) and all other information available to the Board of Directors, meet the independence requirements pursuant to Article 147-ter, paragraph 4, and Article 148, paragraph 3, of the Consolidation Law on Finance, as well as the Corporate Governance Code for Listed Companies. As a result of the assessment, the following were deemed Independent Directors: Simona Heidempergher, Margherita Zambon and Francesco Profumo.

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Founded in 1965, **Aquafil** is one of the main players, in Italy and worldwide, in the production of synthetic fibers, particularly for Polyamide 6 applications. The Group is present in three continents, with a workforce of over 2,700. It operates through two product areas:

1. BCF (Bulk Continuous Filaments): synthetic fibers used in textile floorings in the contract (offices, hotels and public buildings), automotive (car mats and upholstery) and residential sectors. The production of filaments for textile floorings has been Aquafil's core business (accounting for over 80% of the Group's turnover) since the company was founded. Today, the Group is the leader in Europe and the second largest global player in the BCF sector. Almost 20,000 different product codes are handled, all of which are produced internally as part of stylistic research and/or technological innovation projects, in close contact with the customer. The entire collection is renewed every 4 years.
2. NTF (Nylon Textile Filaments): synthetic fibers used in the clothing and sports industries. Today, the Group is the main supplier to some of the leading Italian and European manufacturers of clothing, underwear and sportswear. Aquafil's constant commitment to research enables the Group to support its customers in the development of new textile products to respond to the latest aesthetic and performance trends for clothing and sportswear. The product range offered includes Dryarn® microfiber and ECONYL® regenerated polyamide yarn, which have always been developed from projects carried out in partnership with the final brands.

Aquafil is a pioneer in the circular economy also thanks to the ECONYL® regeneration system, an innovative and sustainable process able to create new products from waste and give life to an endless cycle. The Nylon waste is collected in locations all over the world and includes industrial waste but also products (such as fishing nets and rugs) that have reached the end of their useful life. Such waste is processed so as to obtain a raw material (caprolactam) with the same chemical and performance characteristics as those from fossil sources. The polymers produced from ECONYL® caprolactam are distributed to the Group's production plants, where they are transformed into BCF yarn and NTF



yarn. Today, yarn produced with ECONYL® caprolactam already accounts for about 30% of the Group's revenues. In 2016 Aquafil's revenues amounted to approximately €482 million, EBITDA was about €65 million and net profit totaled about €20 million. Net financial position at December 31, 2016 amounted to about €118 million.

### **For further information**

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