

HIGHLY PRIZED FASTENER LOGISTICS

Berardi, the award-accumulating Italian fastener distributor, tells *Torque* how it's bolstering its services with innovations like the S-BBK 4.0 smart container, as well as lean approaches to optimise production processes...

In its centenary year, Berardi has continued to confirm its status as a leading supplier of industrial logistics services, attracting recognition from a number of sources.

The 'Negotiorum Fucina 2019' (forge of businesses) Innovation prize is awarded by the ADACI (the Association of Italian Purchasing and Supply Managers). The prize was won by the S-BBK 4.0 smart container, Berardi's first step into the 'Smart Factory 4.0 world', where even the cost of information exchange is a consideration, both on an economic level and in terms of customer satisfaction.

The S-BBK 4.0 further enriches Berardi's offering of integrated logistics solutions. An illustrative video detailing the functioning of these smart containers is available on Berardi's YouTube channel.

More recently, Berardi was chosen as the 'Best Service Supplier' by Reggio Emilia-based Motor Power Srl during its Suppliers Day. This highlighted how Berardi's integrated logistics services can create much deeper collaborations than standard supplier-client relationships, the firm said, building solid value networks, which reward all those involved.

In line with the digital transformation of supply chain management, Berardi's logistics services aim to reduce resource-linked costs, adopting a lean approach to optimise the whole production process. In this way, partners can 'forget' about C-parts management, relying on the experience of the Italian distributor.

A feather in Berardi's cap is the Kanban and Kanban Up services, conceived to help partner companies with a constant and measured supply of fasteners, hydraulic



fittings, clamps and more.

"We are able to follow demand fluctuations ever more closely," explains a spokesperson for Berardi's logistics team. "It guarantees punctual supplies, reducing warehouse stocks for clients, while providing constant technical support to guide their logistics decisions."

These services go alongside with sales strategies that, for one century, have determined the growth of the company. Namely, the expansion of the stock items base with more product categories to meet new industrial needs and the growth in export markets, especially the Balkans and Morocco, with the recently founded Berardi Maroc.

Today, Berardi Fasteners handles as many as 150,000 product codes, 45,000 of which are always ready on stock. With

over 3.5 billion pieces delivered per year, Berardi reached a turnover of €77 million in 2018.

Headquartered in Castel Guelfo (Bologna), Berardi captains a group of 12 depots in different Italian locations and three controlled companies (Vibolt, Vitman and VIBF). Berardi is a unique example of solid entrepreneurship, driven by the values of a family that is still firmly at the helm after four generations, from founder Giulio to current CEO Giovanni, and with the fifth on its way.

Giovanni Berardi concludes: "The company stood out and secured work during the last decades thanks to its capability to provide technical, sales, and logistics support, keeping always up-to-date with the latest technological solutions."

www.berardi-screws-bolts.com