

Gabriele Galante
President, IMF Group

Born on 16/03/1942 in Luino from a business family, he studied at the Technical Institute OMAR in Novara and then had to interrupt the university studies to manage, in his early twenties, his father's foundry due to a sudden illness of his father Ardo.

In 1967 he married Luisa Viganò which gave the two beloved daughters Elisabetta and Francesca. Today he is happy grandfather of 4 grandchildren, all males. Sailor since the young age, he has been Italian champion in Class "One Tonner" and "Champion of the Mediterranean" in 1978.

He founded the IMF in 1972 and subsequently founded production units in the Czech Republic (1996), France (1999), China (1999), Brazil (2003). The company today has offices in USA, Russia and India and has representatives in over 35 countries worldwide.

Two new plants, one in China in Tianjin and the other one in Piracicaba Brazil have been inaugurated respectively in 2008 and in 2009. The IMF sales in over 25 countries worldwide and exported more than 90% of its production over the past 15 years.

The relationship of mutual respect with his staff and his attention to the aspirations and needs of workers within the company has created a serene ambience, necessary for a steady development.

He has been president of AMAFOND (National Association of Machinery and Products for the Foundry) in 1983-1987, in 2004-2006, in 2006-2008 and still Past President with responsibility for Internationalization. He is in the Technical Committee of the Confederation of International Affairs (Confindustria) within Federvarie, presided over by Paolo Zegna.

President of CEMAFON (European Association of Machinery Manufacturers for Casting) in the years 1988-1990, 1998-2000, 2001-2004, 2004-2006, 2006-2008, 2008-2010, and currently in office. He is the idea of the biennial International Foundry Forum meeting that gathers the chief of the foundries and the largest users of castings in the world.

He supervised the preparation and execution of an important foundry treatise that has been translated into five languages.

Speaker in the most important world conferences of foundry field, he is often invited to seminars in Chinese, Russian and Italian Universities.

Although the internationalization of its business, he has always shown great attachment to the territory of Luino where, since long time, he promotes co-operation among

manufacturing companies. As a matter of fact he is the inspirer and founder of IT - Enterprises for the Territory - including eight companies of the Territory with a table of values to standardize their socially responsible behaviour.

Promoting member of the Cultural Club Frontiera which is located within the IMF facilities.

He loves spending his free time with his family and closest friends.