

EVERYTHING STARTS FROM THE TANK

ITALIAN MANUFACTURER PADOAN PRODUCES TANKS FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLES IN DIFFERENT SIZES FOCUSING ON PRODUCING THEM FOR HYDRAULICS AND DIESEL. JOHN KENDALL TALKS TO THIS SPECIALIST FAMILY BUSINESS.

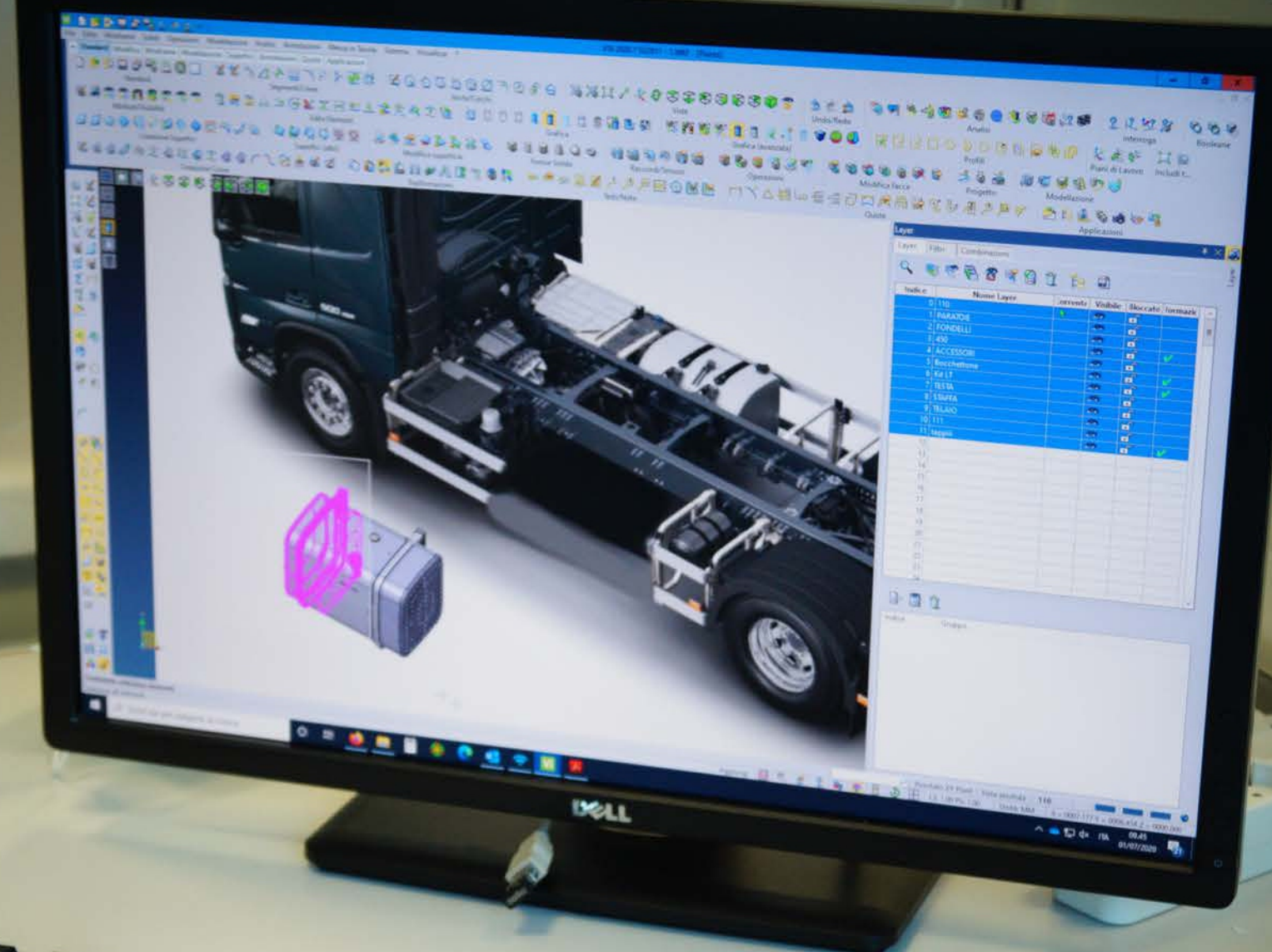


The world has never seen anything like this... (faded text)

It was the first time... (faded text)

The world of hydraulic... (faded text)

Hydraulic systems... (faded text)



Circular inset (centre): Courtesy of Harsh Ltd



Meet the board
Circular insets:
Francesco Padoan (top)
Stefania Padoan (bottom)

The company's commitment is always increasing, and according to the motto 'a customer, one tank operator in the field, one manufacturer Padoan'. The company takes its name from its founder, who established the business in 1937. It's still a family concern today with the third generation, Francesco and Stefania Padoan, heading up the company for the past 21 years.

Padoan is based near Treviso in the Province of Treviso in Italy, a region with a long tradition in the production of metal tanks and tanks for industrial, agricultural and marine use. The company's production is divided into three main areas: industrial tanks, agricultural tanks and marine tanks. The company's products are designed to be used in a wide range of applications, from the construction of large industrial tanks to the production of small agricultural tanks for use in the field.

When asked about where Padoan's products are used, Modesto says that they are at the centre of ordinary life. Houses are built with materials transported to the site by a truck fitted with a hydraulically-driven crane to load and unload, for instance.

Padoan sees itself more as a partner than a customer to truck manufacturers and body builders because of the opportunity to be involved at an early stage to ensure the tank fits

with technical requirements of the application and can be accommodated in a safe and efficient position on the vehicle. "Everything starts from the tank," says Modesto. "We start with high quality raw materials that are also used in the automotive field. It's very, very high quality and then all the processes are focussed on quality."

Padoan also has an extensive network of manufacturing plants in Italy and abroad, ensuring that the company can meet the needs of its customers in all parts of the world. The company's products are designed to be used in a wide range of applications, from the construction of large industrial tanks to the production of small agricultural tanks for use in the field.

To ensure that the company's products are of the highest quality, Padoan uses advanced manufacturing techniques, such as laser cutting and precision welding. The company's products are designed to be used in a wide range of applications, from the construction of large industrial tanks to the production of small agricultural tanks for use in the field.

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"Customisation starts from our standard tank, because the shape of the sidewall is our trademark. We have developed our sidewall, taking into consideration the flow, the cooling, the internal cleanliness and so on. So, we start from the shape of the sidewall and then we create all the variations that would take into consideration pipe returns, or suction connections, or fittings and flanges and so on."

Their sales are now spread across almost 50 countries and Padoan is particularly keen to develop further in the UK. The company was first set up in 1968 and in 1980, Padoan moved and set up a new factory that has since all grown at the end of the manufacturing of tanks is managed in person.

Manufacturing takes place in Italy and also at a production in Germany. In addition, there is a subsidiary company in Germany focused on the German market which includes a specialist hydraulic operator. The German operator was opened in 2010 and a similar company was opened in 2016 to cover the South American market in the same year.

The focus on hydraulic tanks began in the 1980s as hydraulic applications became more widespread. A number of commercial vehicle developments through an increase in on-board hydraulic systems including vehicle airbrake systems, steering, fuel systems, cranes, emergency services including recovery, have led to the expansion of Padoan's product portfolio to construction sites.

"When we talk with customers, we have more and more details,



Circular inset (centre left): Federico Modesto, marketing and communications manager



new requirements, new specifications and the focus on customers' needs is fundamental," says Modesto.

"In our vision, filtration is another specific and important point to consider,"

filtration Modesto. In some markets, it is not considered to be an important. Some of our tanks are used in South America, with the extraction of minerals and so on. There are a lot of new challenging environments for the vehicle with dust and heavy pollution. says Modesto. It is an environment where without filtration, the work conditions could really become uncomfortable. It also has a filter, a filter on the cap for the weather and a filter on the cap for the return of the. The performance can be increased to get the maintenance needs are lower than without a filter." says Modesto.

Padoan has provided fuel tanks for vehicles in the United States. Having a filter in the return is undoubtedly a challenge for any tank.

Looking to the future, the demand for these tanks will rise and Padoan expects the demand for hydraulic systems to increase. While PTO systems will continue to grow, engine power to electric power tanks will still be a challenge. Also, system control, such as delivery in 100% could decrease demand for hydraulic systems and Padoan has a range of computer tanks and tanks systems ready to meet the challenge.