

# A success that comes from afar

From precision mechanics to ultra-high vacuum: a winning route

Test by **Elena Marzorati**



From left Andrea, Paolo, and Cesare Ceracchi

“Cecom in 2014 turns 50. It was founded in 1964 by our father, today’s president, Cesare Ceracchi, who, starting from his passion for precision mechanics, placed the solid foundations on which the company now stands. Our company over the years has witnessed an extraordinary growth which has taken us to the leadership of the mechanical and the ultra-high vacuum sectors”. The words of the Operations Director, Andrea Ceracchi who, together with his brother, Paolo, the organizational director, has, since the year 2000, contributed to the leap in quality that the company has made, opening up to foreign markets and inaugurating excellent collaborations, such as that with the famous Cern of Geneva. Cecom has received an important award for excellence due to its industrial collaboration on the Cms experiment at the Large Hadron Collider, on the occasion of the awarding of the Nobel Prize for the discovery of the Higgs’ Boson. This is a partnership tied to the technology of the ultra-high vacu-

um, which is a condition that is essential for various applications. “Specializing in ultra-high vacuum technology means offering a knowhow and an expertise that not many have. It means also giving continuity to that excellence which, starting from our father, has always made our company stand out” affirms Andrea Ceracchi. Specialization and diversification: here are the keys to Cecom’s success. The entrepreneur continues, “After having understood that the ultra-high vacuum was a prerequisite to face other applications, such as the nuclear, proton therapy, and hadron therapy, we launched ourselves onto new markets. We had understood that our specialization could be extended to other sectors, and as a consequence we did not suffer from the economic downturn”. From this strategic intuition other collaborations were born with the National Hadron Therapy and Oncology Center in Pavia, followed by another important job in collaboration with the Enea Research Center in Frascati, with whom Cecom is

developing a linear proton accelerator to cure some forms of cancer. Even copper plating at a thickness in an ultra-high vacuum is a niche application: “The knowhow that we have acquired over recent years - underlines Ceracchi - has allowed us to win bids with a very high technological content at the prestigious Fusion for Energy, domestic agency at Iter: the international organization that is involved in the development of the first nuclear fusion reactor which will allow for the production of virtually unlimited energy with zero environmental impact, and is extremely safe”. Let us not forget its cooperation in the aeronautical and defense sector: even in these settings, its partnerships are long-term and consolidated. Ceracchi concludes, “Following the values that our father transmitted to us, seeking guaranteed excellence for our clients in a niche sector, and distributing our knowhow among diverse applications, we hope that even our company’s next 50 years will be even richer in positive milestones”.