



ASSOCALZATURIFICI

**Declaration by Siro Badon, President of Assocalzaturifici and MICAM,
the world's leading footwear trade fair due to take place from 13 – 15 March
at the Fiera Milano Rho**

Milan, 3 February 2022 - "On behalf of the entire footwear sector, I would like to express great satisfaction for the Government's far-sighted decision to allow international exhibitors and dealers vaccinated with vaccines not yet approved by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) to attend Italian trade fairs by means of the 'basic' Green Pass, i.e. a negative PCR or rapid antigen test result. An intelligent solution to a regulatory gap that risked cutting off many buyers and visitors from Russia, China, Northern Europe, the Middle East and emerging markets of strategic importance for the footwear supply chain and Italian manufacturing in general. So, with slightly over a month to go before the start of MICAM, this is good news for the entire supply chain, which has been severely impacted by the pandemic crisis and is now gradually returning to pre-covid levels. Now companies will be able to prepare to attend the fair with greater conviction so as not to miss out on business opportunities.

I would also like to applaud the great teamwork of the Marche shoe manufacturers, led by the National Vice President Valentino Fenni, who in total synergy with Assocalzaturifici were successful in bringing the industry's requests to the attention of the authorities, thus safeguarding a sector that, with a turnover of over 14 billion euros and 80,000 employees, is of vital importance for the economy of our country".

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