



ITALY

## YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU

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Soncino (Cremona). Cieffe Milano, a company that produces clothing for designer fashion labels, has converted to manufacturing face masks, white coats and protective clothing for doctors in Covid hospitals. The sewing room where the pieces of fabric that arrive from the cutting area are assembled: at the centre is an example of one of the first prototypes of protective suits for workers in intensive care units.

## **The Italian production apparatus responds to the coronavirus emergency**

With almost 130,000 cases, 16,000 deaths and four thousand people fighting for their lives in intensive care wards (data updated as of April 5), Italy is one of the countries hardest hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. A tsunami of contagions and patients overwhelmed the health care system, with the concrete risk of causing its collapse.

Faced with this unprecedented emergency, the country responded promptly, with great solidarity and with the creativity that distinguishes Italians. And it has often done so in spite of bureaucratic difficulties, thinking not only about the present, but also about the future, when the economy will have to start again.

Many factories, among those that have remained open, have intensified the production of goods, such as alcohol, which have suddenly become crucial, organizing 24-hour shifts to guarantee the necessary supplies. Others have converted their production lines (often specialized in top-of-the-line fashion garments) in a matter of days to manufacture masks and personal protective equipment such as overalls, gloves and over-shoes, crucial for healthcare personnel to operate safely. Startups and research centres have teamed up to produce in a short time and with 3D printing the devices that are scarce in hospitals, such as lung ventilator masks obtained by modifying a snorkel mask.

A choral effort, which in some ways recalls what the populations of many countries did during the two world wars, which is making an important contribution to the containment of the coronavirus epidemic, and thanks to which a number of lives will have been saved that, once we leave all this behind us, it will never be possible to quantify.



Antica Distilleria Russo, Mercato San Severino (Salerno). A worker on one of the bottling lines. Due to the Covid-19 epidemic, the company has seen demand for distilled spirits collapse, but it has also seen an exponential rise in the demand for denatured alcohol, or processed products such as hand sanitizer. Before, these represented only a small part of the company's production.



Scataglini Tessuti, Castelfidardo (Ancona). Packaging face masks.



Cava De' Tirreni (Salerno). A worker from the company Proverbio Service deep cleaning a veterinary clinic. The most exposed surfaces are deep cleaned using ozone. One of the problems of the increased frequency of cleaning interventions is that workers are exposed to excessive amounts of bleach and other polluting substances.



Castelfidardo, (Ancona). Bafy owner Enrico Baffetti in his showroom.



The storeroom of the Antica Distilleria Russo, Mercato San Severino (Salerno). Many workers have been transferred from the production of distilled spirits to the production line for bottling alcohol: in order to meet demand, extra staff have been employed. The factory works 24 hours a day and the storeroom, even though the products are shipped immediately, is always completely full.





Civitanova Marche (Macerata). Hospital ventilator valves produced by the company Prosilas.



Scataglini Tessuti, Castelfidardo (Ancona). Alberina Pompozzi counts sheets of cotton for the production of face masks.



Monte San Giusto (Macerata). Part of a face mask made by Fabi Spa, all of the masks produced are supplied free of charge to local health authorities.



A worker from the company Proverbio Service (Cava De' Tirreni, Salerno) prepares to deep clean a veterinary clinic.



Scataglini Tessuti, Castelfidardo (Ancona). Pierfrancesco Scataglini at work in the warehouse.



Civitanova Marche, (Macerata). 3D printed medical devices created by Prosilas prior to the COVID-19 emergency.



Soncino (Cremona). Cieffe Milano, a company that produces clothing for designer fashion labels, has converted to manufacturing face masks, white coats and protective clothing for doctors in Covid hospitals. A prototype foot covering for use in intensive care units.



Sartoria Matteo Duca, Ancona. Matteo Duca in his showroom.





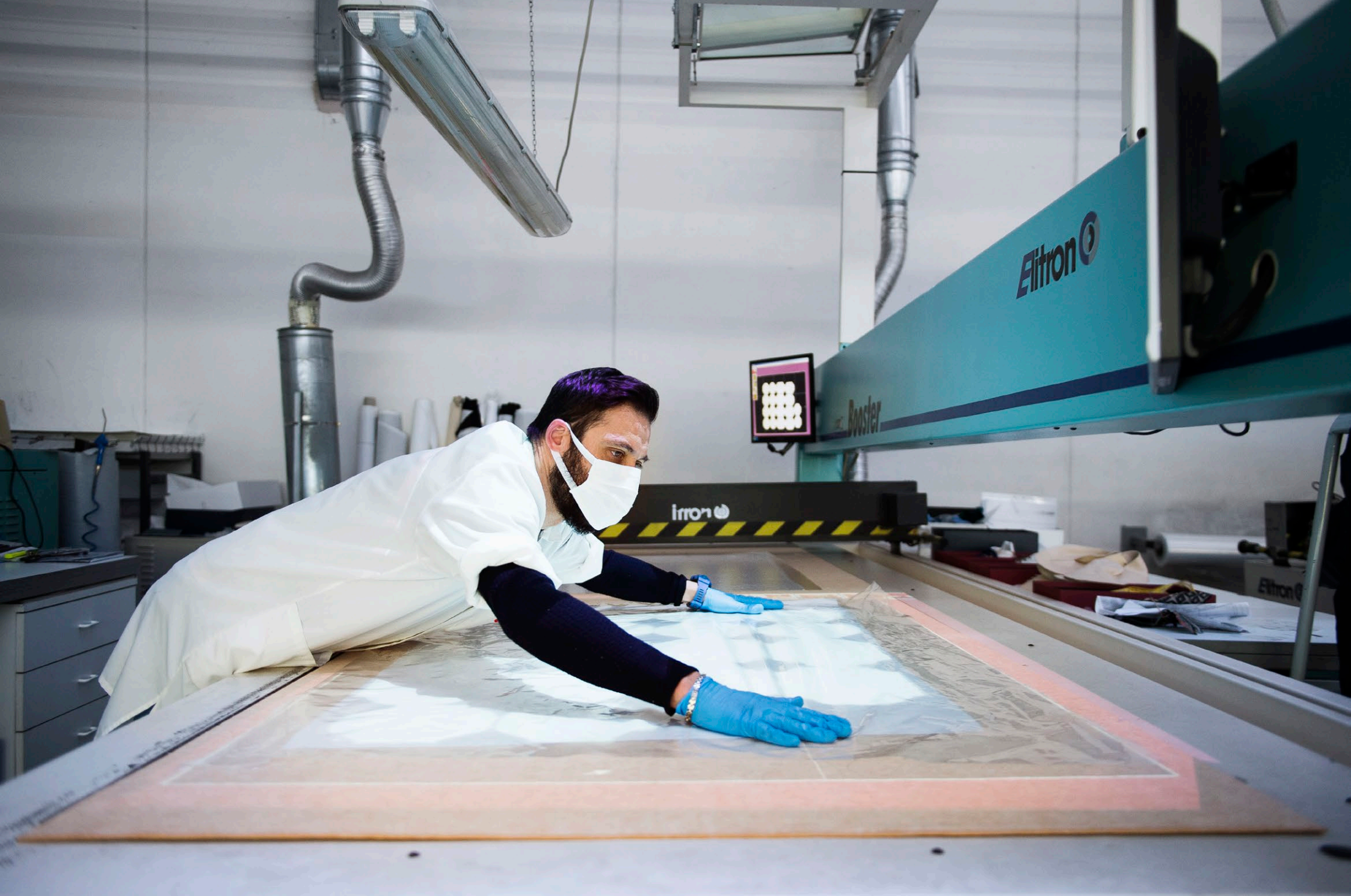
Castelfidardo (Ancona). At the company Bafy, an employee uses a machine to press face masks.



Proverbio Service company (Cava De' Tirreni, Salerno) using bleach to deep clean a large paper-recycling business. At many companies deep cleaning is now taking place more frequently, occurring three times a week instead of just once.



Civitanova Marche (Macerata). At Prosilas employees test the efficacy of modified Decathlon snorkeling masks.



Monte San Giusto (Macerata). An employee of Fabi Spa at work with the cutting machine to cut cotton to make face masks.



Antica Distilleria Russo, Mercato San Severino (Salerno). A machine that produces bottles for alcohol. The Covid-19 emergency has had a notable impact on production and the factory is currently working 3 shifts, 24 hours a day.



Pierfrancesco Scataglini tries out face masks on a mannequin.



A worker from the company Proverbio Service (Cava De' Tirreni Salerno) deep cleaning the employees' changing rooms.



Castelfidardo (Ancona). View of the sewing room at Bafy company, that has been transformed for the production of face masks.





Scataglini Tessuti, Castelfidardo (Ancona). Pierfrancesco Scataglini prepares the guidelines for cutting fabric.



Scataglini Tessuti, Castelfidardo (Ancona). A rosary hangs from an electrical switch on the wall.



Antica Distilleria Russo, Mercato San Severino (Salerno). Stored cleaning detergent; due to the Covid-19 epidemic, the company has seen demand for distilled spirits collapse, but it has also seen an exponential rise in the demand for denatured alcohol, or processed products such as hand sanitizer. Before, these represented only a small part of the company's production.



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