



**Workshop
The MANUFUTURE Platform
Milan, October 20th, 2004**



**The Manufuture Platform:
A new way of governance for research in manufacturing,**

WELCOME

*by Piero Di Porto
on behalf of Director General of MIUR, Alexander Tenenbaum,
Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research*



Milan, Palazzo Affari dei Giureconsulti, 20th October 2004



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KEY POINTS

- Manufacturing has strategic importance in Italy in terms of jobs, quality of life and competitiveness
- Italian companies, in particular the huge network of SMEs, need high tech processes and new high quality products.
- Italian government has always been and is strongly committed in research and innovation policies and actions in favour of Manufacturing:

 *at European Level:*
promoting the participation of Italy to 6thFP (3rd priority) and supporting the MANUFUTURE 2003 Conference

 *at National Level:*
the FAR (Fund for Applied Research) Program, EUREKA initiatives (FACTORY-DNA) and the "Guidelines for Science and Technology Policy of the Government 2003-2006"

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