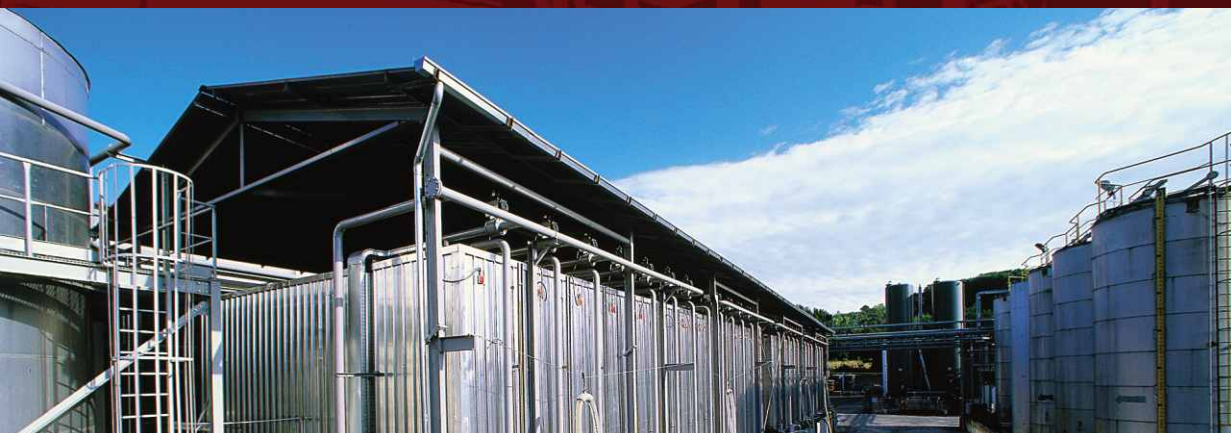


Società Internazionale Lubrificanti



SLI



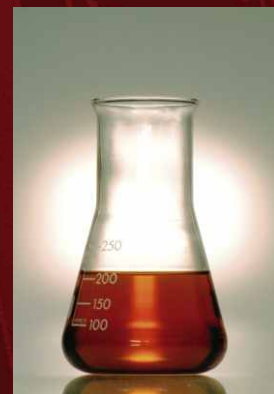
SLI company

SLI provides an integrated third-party service for the production and storage of lubricants. In 1995 SLI was acquired by Decal S.p.A, the controlling entity. Thanks to an intensive programme of investments carried out by its shareholders in the past few years, SLI has grown to become a fully integrated service. SLI production capabilities allow blending of a wide variety of lubricant products for both automotive and industrial markets. The flexible production process allows us to match product properties to individual client requirements. Today SLI covers an area of nearly 90,000 sq. m. In 2001 alone, the expanding demand for SLI services coupled with the introduction of new production technologies resulted in an almost 30% increase in sales.

The services rendered by SLI are totally customised to the clients in terms of individual formula blending, production availability and planning, storage capacity and shipment timing. The seamless integration of the production, logistics and commercial departments gives SLI the competitive advantage it needs as one of the leaders of Italian market. The company offers integrated services in four primary areas:

- raw material purchase,
- blending,
- filling,
- storage.

SLI delivers high-quality fully-integrated service covering complete process of lubricant production.





Raw materials

SLI can count on well-established relationships with the leading global suppliers of base oils and additives. Raw materials are purchased either for internal production or to be sold on the market. SLI has recently expanded the latter type of activity. Thanks to its network of national and international contacts, SLI can sell raw materials at very competitive prices. Sales prices are normally negotiated with the client according to ICIS LOR quotations. The wide range of base oils and additives purchased by SLI enables the company to meet all market needs, from the highly sophisticated products constantly updated according to the latest specifications to the more economical products, which are delivered to the client with constant attention to the quality of service.

Blending processes

SLI has been one of the first companies in Italy to utilise a specifically created software platform to control and remotely plan all phases of production. The total automation and flexibility of the production process give SLI its competitive advantage, making it one of the market leaders in the blending industry.

SLI utilises blenders of different dimensions, ranging from 1.6m³ to 100m³. For this reason, the production process is extremely versatile and can easily adapt to client's needs.

The combination of base oils and additives with high-tech ingredients provides highest quality products. All our lubricants comply with the most rigorous safety and technical standards. The fully automated and flexible production process allows SLI to blend a wide range of products belonging to the following categories:

- Motor Oils,
- Industrial Oils,
- Special Products.





Filling

Production flexibility and customer orientation enable SLI to promptly respond to the changing customer needs. The 11 fully automated packaging lines give a wide choice of packaging formats from 250ml plastic bottles and 1l metallic cans to 1,000l tanks.

The flexibility of our blending plant allows us to execute both small and large quantity orders. Moreover, we can vary our production output and execute mixed orders.

The SLI staff can also offer their expertise in the development of new package formats and labels.

The leading position of SLI in the Italian market is especially evident in case of small package filling lines. In this area SLI offers remarkable production versatility and huge capacity, e.g. our can line can reach a maximum of 13,000 pieces per hour. Nevertheless, we also execute smaller orders (4,000/5,000 pieces each).



Quality control



SLI is highly committed to ensure the best quality of its manufactured products. The internally developed quality control system meets the most demanding industry requirements, as attested by the ISO 9002 certification, which SLI received in 1997. The computer-based control system checks the quality of the products at every stage of the production process.

The application of specialised software means that all phases of the production process are constantly monitored, even though each single activity is protected by specific security systems.

The quality control laboratory is a fundamental part of the production process. The main function of the lab is the quality control of the whole production chain. The absolute precision of the controls carried out by the SLI personnel is monitored by the Experimental Work Station of Oils and Greases, located in Milan. The analysis is based on standard samples provided by SGS. The lab also offers testing of used oils, thus helping the client optimise the timing of substitution of lubricants. This type of analysis takes into account and monitors the operating environment for the oils.





Storage

One of SLI core services is the storage of lubricants and other products of the automotive line. This activity is carried out both for in-house productions as well as for third parties' stock. Our modern and efficient infrastructure guarantees the continuity of supplies. The SLI plant covers an area of nearly 90,000 sq. m., of which 40,000 sq. m. are used exclusively for storing purposes. The storage area includes a 12,000 sq. m. computer-managed warehouse for packaged products with high storage pallet system (11,000 pallet places). The warehouse is managed by a computer-integrated system with a bar code reading facility that controls all movement and allocation operations. SLI can locate in real time the exact position of every single pallet, from the moment it leaves the production line until it is loaded on a lorry. In addition to the storage facilities for packaged products there are also tanks with 11,000 m³ storing capacity for bulk products and non-lubricants. This latter category includes anti-freeze and brake fluids.

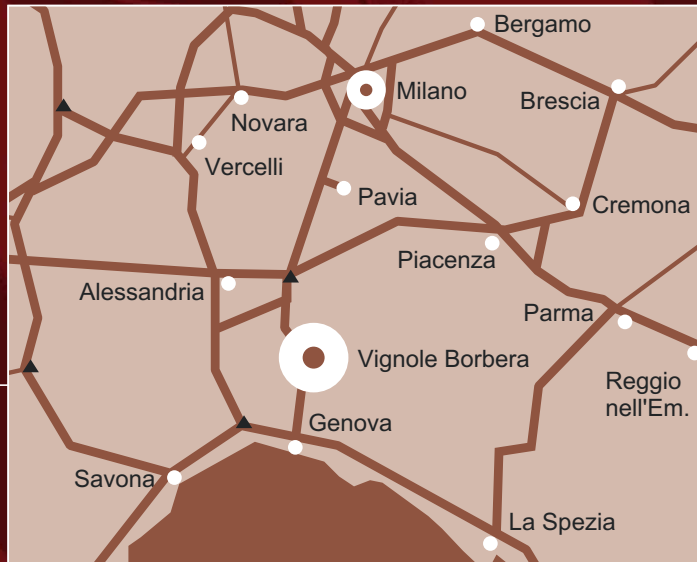
The area dedicated to the storage of base oils amounts to more than 5,200 m³. In the base oil tanks, both paraffinic and synthetic bases are stocked, including polyalphaolefinic and hydrogen-treated bases with high viscosity index.

The storing area dedicated to raw materials includes segregated tanks for additives. The segregation allows the storage of several different types of additives without any risk of contamination. The total capacity of additive storage exceeds 1,000 m³.

The high level of technological equipment, as well as the full automation of the production process, allow SLI to render a punctual and efficient service that is known to be among the most sophisticated in the lubricant sector.



Società Internazionale Lubrificanti S.p.A.



Location of SLI plant in Vignole Borbera (AL) and commercial office in Milan, Italy.

SLI

The SLI plant strategic location gives the benefit of convenient transportation - the company is situated 2 km from the Milan-Genoa highway and only 40 km from the Italian biggest commercial port - Genoa.

The SLI plant is located in Vignole Borbera (AL) while its commercial offices are located in Milan, Italy.

Professional, dedicated and friendly customer service personnel are ready to respond to all your enquiries. Please contact our office at the following address:

Società Internazionale Lubrificanti S.p.A.

Via Vanzelle 14
15060 Vignole Borbera (AL)
Italy
Tel.: + 39 0143 677767
Fax: + 39 0143 677787

info@slilubricants.com

www.slilubricants.com