**Ati Softpress:** A New Touch-Screen Panel

ATI S.r.l. (Fano, Italy, www.atifano.it) has developed a new type of software for the control of the soft pressing of grapes and fruit. It is well-known that the wine press ATI makes use of a central elastic membrane (in natural rubber), coaxially placed in the centre of a wholly-pierced tank: this technology allows to get a uniform distribution of the grapes at 360 degrees inside the tank and, therefore, uniform pressure, high drainage and short processing time, with significant benefits on the quality of the musts. These features have made the press ATI Softpress suitable for pressing also other fruits, such as apples and pomegranates, with low processing time and high yields.

In order to make the most of the benefits offered by the central elastic membrane and by the wholly-pierced tank, ATI has recently developed a new software, that allows to manage the pressing programs in a highly flexible way, simple at the same time, with the possibility to create cycles customized on one’s pressing needs.

The main functions of the new software are:

- choice of the program from a pre-set list;
- editing and storage of customized new programs;
- diagram page displaying the chosen programme;
- machine-state page displaying process parameters (pressure, time, crushing etc.);
- options such as skipping cycles along the program or repeating previous cycles;
- possibility to leave out deflating and crushing steps (“Crémant”-like programs), thus reducing at minimum lees production.

The combination of all these features allows to build, save and run programs fitting every need (easy or difficult grapes, apples, pomegranates...); at the same time, the use of the panel is easy and direct. Currently, the software is available in Italian, French, English, Spanish, German and Russian. (www.atifano.it)