



pininfarina



PRESS RELEASE

Pininfarina obtains *customs audit* certificate

Turin, April 18 2007 – This morning, dr. Paolo Di Roma, Regional Director of the Customs Agency for Piedmont and the Aosta Valley, handed over the **customs audit** certificate to four leading companies operating in Piedmont: Pininfarina, Avio, Denso and Miroglio. For our company, the certificate was withdrawn by dr. Massimo Zagati and dr. Luca Pellion di Persano of Administration, Finance and Control.

The *customs audit*, introduced in Italy by the Customs Agency in April 2003, is designed to simplify relationships between companies and the Agency. The procedure is intended to:

- allow “virtuous” companies to simplify the procedures necessary to comply with customs obligations, thus enhancing their competitiveness;
- concentrate the activity of the Customs Agency in relation to operators at high risk.

In particular, the *customs audit* makes it possible to avoid invasive inspection methods and to imbue relationships with the Public Authorities with a spirit of mutual cooperation in order to help companies operate in the best way possible on international markets.

The simplification refers to the reduction in the number of inspections, which may reach 98% on goods and on the documents necessary for customs clearance. To achieve these results, the companies must first of all carry out a *customs audit*. This consists in auditing of the corporate process by the customs authority from the organisational, technical and document production viewpoint in the customs area. Basically, it consists in demonstrating that the company adopts a valid and reliable “customs quality system”.

Lastly, it should be stressed that the customs audit is a preparatory step to obtaining the qualification of “Authorised Economic Operator” (AOE), planned for 2008 by the Community Customs Code. Companies that obtain this qualification will be frontrunners in streamlining security and customs inspections.