ANODIZING BY MEANS OF PULSE CURRENT: THE INNOVATION INTRODUCED BY ELCA 10 YEARS AGO HAS BEEN REDICOVERED NOWADAYS IN GERMANY TOO

Prof. Pietro Luigi Cavallotti - Editor of "Galvanotecnica e nuove finiture"

In Italy the innovative local production of reagents for Galvanic is decreasing .

It's not the same for what concerns plants and equipment in which we can vindicate an outstanding position in Europe .

This is the case of the use of **pulse current in anodizing** that ELCA firm of Eng. C. Colombini introduced more than a decade ago and that at the beginning was accepted with some doubts by German technicians during an International Congress.

Only now Galvanotechnick, the important German review in this field, in its issue 4/2001 page 972-975 has published an article on Anodizing ("Harteloxal in der Praxix " by W. Befeld) in which it states:

"The quality of layers (oxide) that can be obtained on aluminium by means of pulse current is, under the same conditions, better than the one obtained by means of continuous current".

Pulse supplier working conditions, as reported in fig. 2 of the article, as regards the base current and pulse current duration are respectively 100 ms and 250 ms and correspond exactly with the

conditions that Eng. Colombini has advised in ELCA technical manuals since the beginning of the nineties.

While we congratulate Eng. Colombini and ELCA for having advanced and divulged this important result, we regret that in the German article ELCA is not even mentioned.