

Visconti

Classic and modern vintage fountain pens.
Period 1988 - 2001



Visconti, the Italian pen maker in Florence. The Visconti offices and meeting rooms are in the various rooms of an old villa and have high, painted ceilings and a feeling of grandeur. The workshops are in the former cellars, mill and stables of the villa. Dante and his partner, Luigi Poli, were both pen collectors. They had concluded the market was missing the style and quality of pens from previous generations. They advanced their passion and commitment to design and create distinctive, quality pens by creating a new pen company.

Looking back, Dante told me the driving force in the designing of their pens was passion rather than an extensive business plan. His goal was to create a pen with its own style. Luigi Poli has left Visconti, and Dante now leads the company. It became clear through our conversation that his passion, creativity and dedication to high standards of quality are the driving forces that have taken Visconti to the level it has achieved.

Innovation continues to be a part of Dante's approach. Over the years some of the designs of Visconti pens, as well as the patents awarded, have set the company apart from others. The patents include innovations such as the traveling ink pot, the technical composition of the ink pellets and the Visconti ink well.

The "Classic" was Visconti's first pen, created in celluloid, and released in 1988. It is a very attractive pen, piston filled, with a 14 karat gold nib. This noble pen launched the company.

In the following year the "Replica", also in celluloid, was released and this line also had a ball point pen available. From that time, distinctive, quality pens were released each year.

The company first started under the name of Office Dream, selling office accessories such as Filofax supplies as well as pens. It is quite the undertaking to start a company from scratch and this broader base of business was required until the pen business would be sufficient to be the primary area of business. As this change occurred, the company became known as Visconti.

It was clear that every Visconti pen starts with a creative idea, an idea linked with art, archeology, philosophy or history. Fusion with the personal creativity of Dante del Vecchio and his designers, history and important events, has resulted in an impressive line of Visconti pens. Some of the designs are truly innovative and sets Visconti apart from other pen companies.

Source: from Glens Pens