

COMMERCE

Tom Ford Fashion appoints first CEO

July 18, 2023



Arriving from LVMH-owned jewelry brand Bulgari, Lelio Gavazza will step into the newly-created CEO role in September. Image credit: Tom Ford

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

U.S. luxury brand **Tom Ford**'s ready-to-wear arm is naming a new lead.

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Effective Sept. 18, 2023, Lelio Gavazza will step into the role of CEO at Tom Ford Fashion, reporting directly to the head of Zegna Group the holding company has operated Tom Ford's apparel business since acquiring a long-term licensing agreement from owner Este Lauder Companies in November 2022. Mr. Gavazza will oversee end-to-end operations for the high-end clothing label.

"Lelio's track record of strong global leadership brings outstanding luxury expertise to Tom Ford Fashion across retail management, wholesale distribution, marketing, digital and key markets, including China," said Ermenegildo Zegna, chairman and CEO of **Zegna Group**, in a statement.

"I have personally known and appreciated Lelio for many years, and I'm confident that his world-class business acumen, deep international experience, and leadership skills will prove invaluable in the development of the Tom Ford Fashion business globally."

New beginnings

Spanning 20 years of service, Mr. Gavazza arrives with a wealth of experience in the luxury industry.

The executive will transition away from the previously-held executive vice president of sales & retail title at LVMH-owned Roman jeweler Bulgari, where he served in several regional leadership capacities, including managing director of both Greater China and Europe, Middle East, and Africa, respectively.

In his new position, created especially for the industry veteran, Mr. Gavazza will work closely with Tom Ford CEO and recent appointee ([see story](#)) Guillaume Jesel.

"I am delighted to welcome Lelio Gavazza as CEO, Tom Ford Fashion," said Mr. Jesel, in a statement.

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TOM FORD (@TOMFORD) July 5, 2023

"The Este Lauder Companies and Tom Ford have had an exceptional and longstanding relationship with Gildo Zegna and the Zegna Group," he said. "We look forward to working closely with Gildo, Lelio, and their teams to take Tom Ford Fashion to its next level in global luxury."

"I am honored to join Zegna Group as its CEO of Tom Ford Fashion and look forward to working with Gildo Zegna and partnering with Guillaume Jesel to continue to foster the growth of Tom Ford at the pinnacle of luxury fashion," Mr. Gavazza said, in a statement.

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