



## **PRESS RELEASE**

## CIRCLE Group announces that two major freight forwarders have started using MILOS TFP with the e-CMR of the ACCUDIRE platform

Milan, 4 September 2024

Circle S.p.A. ("CIRCLE" or the "Company") - Innovative SME listed on the Euronext Growth Milan market at the head of the Group of the same name specializing in the process, analysis and the development of solutions for the digitalization of the port and intermodal logistics sectors and in international consultancy on the Green Deal and energy transition issues, announces full operability with the new e-CMR system developed by ACCUDIRE, an innovative startup from Verona of the Industry 5.0, a Circle Group subsidiary since December 2023. The collaboration between Circle and ACCUDIRE has led to the creation of an integrated digital platform capable of helping players along global logistics supply chains in the exchange of information and management of document flows accompanying the shipment of goods. The e-CMR system created by ACCUDIRE will enable Italian and national operators to comply with international standards and European directives, which came into effect this summer.

Circle Group, as part of the Start 4.0 Project, successfully completed the pilot project with Northwest as an international freight forwarder on the ACCUDIRE platform for the of e-CMR generation. The shipment took place on 26 July 2024 from Italy to the Netherlands and the goods were received on 2 August 2024. The e-CMR electronic document was created via an API interface, with the automated affixing of advanced electronic signatures for sender and receiver. Each signature was notarised on blockchain, guaranteeing data inalterability, maximum security and traceability, along with real-time geolocation of those involved.

Circle Group, as part of the Start 4.0 Project, also completed another important system trial in August, successfully completing the pilot with GDT Logistic S.p.A. as international freight forwarder on the ACCUDIRE platform for the generation of the e-CMR. The shipment and the e-CMR were created with automated advanced electronic signatures of the various parties involved. Each signature was notarised on the blockchain, thus guaranteeing maximum security and traceability, together with real-time geolocation of the parties involved and archiving in the archiving management system.

ACCUDIRE's e-CMR thus confirms itself as an advanced solution for the management of logistics areas and document digitisation of the supply chain.



With its official entry into effect in Italy on 26 September, the e-CMR of the ACCUDIRE platform is able to efficiently and electronically manage the information of classic waybills, facilitating groupage shipments and/or shipments characterised by sectorial peculiarities (dangerous goods, waste, cold chain), which require specific accompanying documentation.

All Circle Group solutions and products are natively integrated with this digital solution.

Luca Abatello, Circle Group CEO, commented: "This innovation enters the Italian transport landscape and represents a turning point for the logistics sector as it will significantly accelerate operational processes and at the same time improve safety standards, generating a decisive impact in the transport, legal, insurance, customs and data protection fields. We are proud to be an active part of this transformation, helping to push the industry towards solutions that not only optimise efficiency, but also promote a more sustainable and ecological approach, in line with contemporary needs."

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This press release is available in the Investor Relations section of the website on <a href="www.circlegroup.eu">www.circlegroup.eu</a> and on <a href="www.1info.it">www.1info.it</a>.

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Founded in Genoa in 2012, **Circle S.p.A.** is the Innovative SME at the head of the **CIRCLE Group**, the Group specialising in the analysis and development of products for the **innovation** and **digitalisation of the port** and **intermodal logistics sectors and in the international consultancy on topics concerning the Green Deal and energy transition**.

In addition to Circle, the Group includes the software houses **Info.era**, **NEXT Freight** (formerly 'Adele Project') and **Cargo Start**, acquired at the end of 2017, July 2019 and December 2022 respectively, the consulting companies **Magellan Circle** and **Magellan Circle Italy**, the **NewCo NEXT Customs**, as well as the subsidiary **Accudire**.

The synergies between the individual components of the CIRCLE Group have made it possible to expand the portfolio of solutions offered in the areas of IoT, Optimisation, Digital Twin, Big Data and Process Automation, and to strengthen the software products: Milos® - a suite aimed at all players in intermodal logistics such as inland terminals, port terminals, ports, MTOs and maritime agencies -, the Extended Port Community System, the Master SPED® and Milos® Global Supply Chain Visibility solutions, dedicated respectively to freight forwarding and logistics and to trade and industry, as well as Star Tracking®, an airport-to-airport tracking solution.

To complete the offer in the Supply Chain area, the so-called **'Federative Services'** able to make the migration of customers towards a digital business model more efficient and offered in cloud mode.



Through Magellan Circle (with offices in Porto and Brussels) and Magellan Circle Italy, Circle operates in the field of advocacy at European Institutions, supporting Public Bodies and Companies by identifying their positioning at a European level (Strategic Communication and Advocacy) and funding opportunities (Eu Funding Accelerator), with a vertical focus on Green Deal and energy transition issues.

The acquisition of the 51% of shares of **Cargo Start** in December 2022, a company specialising in the development and sale of innovative technological products and services for air cargo, allowed Circle to strengthen its offering in a rapidly expanding segment that is strategic to the **Connect 4 Agile Growth** industrial path.

Circle leads the <u>Log@Sea</u> business network, which is instrumental in enhancing the offer of advanced **Gate Automation** solutions aimed at port and intermodal nodes.

In December 2023, Circle subscribed to a capital increase equal to 20% of the share capital of ACCUDIRE, an Innovative Startup from Veneto that provides a **Collaborative Digital Platform** capable of helping players along global Supply Chains in the exchange of information and in the management of document flows accompanying goods shipments, starting first and foremost with the **e-CMR** (or electronic waybill, part of an international standard and transposition law just approved by the Italian Parliament).

Finally, in February 2024 Circle established the NewCo **NEXT Customs**, dedicated to digital customs optimisation services and functional to the continuation of initiatives aimed at the harmonisation of customs processes, a highly strategic area for the evolution of the **Connect 4 Agile Growth path**.

Circle S.p.A. has been listed on the Euronext Growth Milan market of Borsa Italiana since October 26, 2018 (alphanumeric code: CIRC; ISIN code ordinary shares: IT. 0005344996).

## For further information Circle S.p.A.

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