



## PRESS RELEASE

## Circle Group participates in the project SEMAS-EMSWe worth 245.000 euros supporting European Maritime Transport digitalisation

Milan, October 17th 2024

<u>CIRCLE S.p.A.</u> ("CIRCLE" or the "Company") - an Innovative SME listed on the Euronext Growth Milan market, heading the Group specialized in the process analysis and the development of solutions for the digitalization of the port and intermodal logistics sectors, as well as in the international consultancy on Green Deal and energy transition topics - announces that it has been awarded as a key partner for the SEMAS-EMSWe (Smart European Maritime Space through the European Maritime Single Window Environment) project. With an allocated funding of  $\leq 245,000$ , Circle Group will contribute to modernizing Europe's maritime transport infrastructure by streamlining and harmonizing digital reporting across seven EU Member States.

SEMAS-EMSWe is an ambitious 32-month project, coordinated by Fundación Valenciaport, that brings together maritime authorities from Italy, Finland, Portugal, The Netherlands, Slovenia, Spain, and Sweden. The project aims to implement the **European Maritime Single Window Environment (EMSWe)** as outlined in Regulation (EU) 2019/1239, aligning each country's Maritime National Single Window (MNSW) with new legal standards for seamless data exchange across Europe.

The project will drive interoperability and foster sustainability within the maritime transport network, enhancing efficiency, safety, and environmental impact. By integrating advanced digital solutions for ship and cargo data reporting, the project supports the EU's Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy and the European Green Deal, ensuring a greener, more connected future for maritime transport.

**Alexio Picco, Managing Director of Circle Group, remarked**, "At Circle Group, we are proud to play a central role in SEMAS-EMSWe. This collaborative effort not only enhances efficiency across European maritime systems but also accelerates the transition to smarter, more sustainable transport solutions. The project represents a significant leap toward digital harmonization in the maritime sector, in line with our Connect 4 Agile Growth plan."

The SEMAS-EMSWe initiative enjoys strong support from public and private stakeholders, ensuring its successful implementation across the EU.

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Founded in Genoa in 2012, **Circle S.p.A.** is the Innovative SME at the head of the <u>CIRCLE Group</u>, 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**<sup>®</sup> - 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**<sup>®</sup> and **Milos**<sup>®</sup> **Global Supply Chain Visibility** solutions, dedicated respectively to freight forwarding and logistics and to trade and industry, as well as **Star Tracking**<sup>®</sup>, 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).

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