

## PRESS RELEASE

## CIRCLE Group at the EFTI4EU event in Rome on November 28th, 2024

Milan, November 22<sup>st</sup>, 2024

**CIRCLE S.p.A.** ("**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 its participation at the **eFTI4EU project conference to be held in Rome on November 28<sup>th</sup>**, at the headquarter of the Ministero delle infrastrutture e dei trasporti, in the Sala Emiclo, to encourage member States to work together to develop an efficient and effective eFTI exchange environment, as well as interoperable at the European level.

Organized with support from RAM and Circle Group, the event will be dedicated to the digitization of freight transport in the EU, with a focus on European Regulation 2020/1056 and electronic freight information management (eFTI).

Specifically, **eFTI4EU (Electronic Freight Transport Information for the European Union)** is the first project to make EU Regulation 2020/1056 (eFTI) a reality and is funded by the European Commission's Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) program.

The goal of the project and its 23 partners is to create a unified approach to eFTI gate operation and implement a reference architecture for the exchange of logistics and transportation data. The latter will be tested through a series of use cases (both national and cross-border) in all 9 member States directly involved.

Circle Group will take center stage during the eFTI4EU event in two significant moments. The first will focus on the presentation of the "Additional Protocol to the e-CMR Convention," operational since September 26, showcasing practical cases and real-world applications. Subsequently, the "Italian-Austrian cross-border pilot developed within the eFTI4EU project" will be presented, highlighting the company's innovative contribution to the transport and logistics sector. Experts and institutional representatives are expected to participate, and Ministers and Institutions will also take part in the initiative.

The many benefits of the Regulation are visible for both economic operators active in the market and the relevant control authorities. Indeed, optimization of costs and time of transport operations, higher quality of control; together with better enforcement of national and EU regulations,





increased safety for emergency services and more efficient operations, represent a real turning point in transport management.

Luca Abatello, **CEO of Circle Group**, commented, "We are proud to participate in the national Efti4eu event, which is a special opportunity to explore and learn more about the project's pilot cases and the digitization of freight information from both a regulatory and practical perspective regarding the digital tools to be implemented. Our commitment to improving sustainability, efficiency and interoperability among all stakeholders is central to our "**Connect 4 Agile Growth**" strategic plan, and we believe the case studies presented at the event are concrete evidence and an incentive toward change."

To attend the event, you can register at the following link: <u>I casi pilota del progetto europeo eFTI4EU</u> <u>e la digitalizzazione nei trasporti - normativa e casi reali</u>.

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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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