



PRESS RELEASE

Circle Group at the European Maritime Space Forum event on November 22, 2024 in Brussels

Milan, November 28, 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 **European Maritime Space Forum that highlights innovation and collaboration in maritime sector**, held on November 22, 2024 in Brussels, at the Borschette Conference Center.

The first European Maritime Space (EMS) Forum, organized by Circle on behalf of the European Commission DG MOVE, brought together industry experts, policymakers, and stakeholders through panel discussions and interactive sessions to discuss recent developments in maritime policy, connectivity, digitalization, and port resilience, crucial topics to the future of European maritime transport. In fact, the EMS aims to support the TEN-T regulation maritime dimension promoting short sea shipping, improving connectivity, and supporting the transition to greener shipping practices.

In her keynote speech, **Gesine Meissner, the European Coordinator for the EMS**, emphasised the need for collaboration among stakeholders to achieve the ambitious goals set forth by new TEN-T Regulation. More specifically, a better cooperation with relevant EU bodies like DG MARE (Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries) and DG CLIMA (Directorate-General for Climate Action) is essential for advancing maritime policies that can effectively deal with current and future challenges.

The forum also represented an opportunity to discuss key topics such as digitalisation, port resilience, and short sea shipping, areas where new EU coordinators are expected to play an active role in shaping policy and facilitating innovation. By focusing on these areas, the EMS aims to enhance overall maritime connectivity and sustainability across Europe. In this context, its relevance was emphasized through discussions on cooperation, policy development, and innovative solutions necessary for a resilient maritime future.

The forum concluded with a commitment to further develop the European Maritime Space concept, with the next **EMS Forum scheduled for June 18, 2025**.

Alexio Picco, Managing Director of Circle Group and President of Magellan Circle, **commented:** *“This first European Maritime Space (EMS) Forum represents the starting point of a new era, as the European Maritime Space is still a new concept. As Circle, we are honored to support the sector in reshaping the future of European maritime transport. Moreover, our **“Connect 4 Agile Growth”***



business plan has among its main goals to bring greater awareness and ensure that innovative solutions are implemented and communicated clearly and effectively.”

*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 **Log@Sea** 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

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