



PRESS RELEASE

Magellan Circle launches Maritime Low Emission Network (MarLEN) Project, following a grant from Horizon Europe worth 208,000 Euro

Milan, December 3, 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 that its subsidiary Magellan Circle has been awarded a grant of **than 208,000 euros** from the European Union's **Horizon Europe** program for its participation in the **Maritime Low Emission Network (MarLEN)** project. This ambitious project aims to strengthen the European vessel research area by developing synergies between national and regional maritime research programs and policies.

MarLEN will focus on the development of **zero-emission maritime transport technologies**, helping to achieve the European Union's climate goals. The **54-month-project** will start in January 2025 and will see Magellan Circle as a central player in terms of stakeholder engagement and dissemination activities.

The MarLEN project involves a consortium of **13 partners** from across Europe, including research institutes, industry associations, and government agencies from Germany, the United Kingdom, Turkey, Italy, Ireland, Romania, Belgium, and Norway. This international consortium will work together to develop advanced solutions and share knowledge in the area of maritime decarbonization.

Alexio Picco, **Managing Director of Circle Group and President of Magellan Circle**, said, “We are excited to be part of this important initiative to accelerate the decarbonization of maritime transport. The MarLEN project aligns perfectly with our expertise in sustainable logistics and our commitment to foster innovation in the sector , and is a key step toward a much-needed shift in maritime transport as presented in our “**Connect 4 Agile Growth**” business plan.”

*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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