

PRESS RELEASE

Circle Group alongside C.I.S.Co. to present the BoxEu project: a new era for container management through the BoxTech platform

Milan, March 7, 2025

<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 — enthusiastically announces, in collaboration with C.I.S.Co. (Centro Internazionale Studi Containers) and under the patronage of Bureau International des Containers BIC (C.I.S.Co. represents its National Registration Organisation in Italy), the launch of an innovative project promoting the adoption of the BoxTech platform in Italy: an initiative aimed at digitalising and centralising container data management, for more efficient, secure and transparent logistics.

BoxTech is a free and neutral platform developed by BIC, which enables container owners to upload the technical details of their devices. Through this platform, mandatory data such as tare weight, gross maximum weight (GVW) and other essential information is easily accessible not only by the owners, but also by all supply chain actors such as shippers, customs, terminals and hauliers. BoxTech is therefore a global, centralised repository that helps improve communication and operational efficiency.

The platform, compliant with the 4S standard, safety, security, sustainability, therefore offers a single source of quick and reliable access to all container-related information, thus reducing the time and effort required to search for data from multiple disparate sources. In addition, BoxTech facilitates compliance with VGM (Verified Gross Mass) declaration requirements, simplifying the management of information required for transport security. The API technology also enables both the automatic loading of container fleets and the consultation of data in real time, ensuring a continuous and up-to-date flow of information. Another important aspect is the ability to easily report if a container has been sold, stolen or lost, transferring responsibility for any damage or wrongdoing to the new owners or responsible operators.

In this way, BoxTech not only increases operational efficiency, but also helps to improve security and transparency in container management, making the platform an indispensable tool for all actors involved in logistics. The BoxEu project marks an important step in the



introduction and adoption of the BoxTech platform on a national level by undertaking a 'bottom-up' deployment operation, directly involving the contact persons of companies managing container fleets.

With the BoxEu project, Circle Group and C.I.S.Co. intend to accelerate the digitisation of the logistics sector, increasing reliability and transparency in the management of container data. BoxTech is a key solution to support all actors involved in the container handling process, from container registration to fleet management.

'Our collaboration with BIC and C.I.S.Co. through the BoxEu project,' said **Luca Abatello, CEO of Circle Group**, 'aims not only to promote an innovative platform, but also to establish a new standard of efficiency and security in container management. We are proud to be part of this initiative that marks a fundamental step towards the digitisation and simplification of the logistics sector, as per the **Connect 4 Agile Growth** industrial plan'.

The pilot project, which started in Italy, will be presented at **Let Expo**, the sustainable transport and logistics fair that will take place from 11 to 14 March in Verona, at the **Assiterminal stand (stand A2 hall 3)**, where a presentation of the project is scheduled for **Thursday 13 March at 11.30** am.

Circle Group will also be in Hall E4 - Stand 4, hosted by the SIMA (Zucchetti Group) and ACCUDIRE stand, to present innovative solutions for document dematerialisation, interoperability with logistics nodes and digitalisation of information flows in the operating systems of the main players involved. It will be a unique opportunity to discover concrete projects aimed at optimising booking processes at the gates, with a significant reduction in waiting times and an improvement in operational efficiency. Solutions for automating the management of pre-arrival messages, automatically updating cargo and container tracking data at the terminals, and eliminating errors associated with manual data entry will also be presented. Thanks to these innovations, traffic flow management is smoother, significantly reducing waiting times for hauliers and optimising the entire export and import cycle of goods.



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**, **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'** are 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 owns 92% of eXyond, formerly Log@Sea business network, active in offering advanced Gate Automation solutions aimed at port and intermodal nodes. On December 27th, 2024, eXyond acquired the business unit owned by Telepass Innova S.p.A. (a subsidiary of Telepass S.p.A.). The Business Unit includes the Infomobility Line of Business (resulting from the merger by incorporation of the company InfoBlu S.p.A. into Telepass Innova) active in advanced traffic monitoring and management services on the Italian road and motorway network, and the Telematics Line of Business (resulting from the merger by incorporation of the company KMaster S.r.l. into Telepass Innova) active in the provision of telematics services, based on proprietary technology platforms, to companies operating in the logistics, transport and insurance sectors. Circle subscribed to a capital increase equal to 21% 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 **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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