



PRESS RELEASE

CIRCLE Group: kicks off the pilot project with expert.ai within FENIX

Genoa, January 26th, 2021

After the completion of the first phase of the International Fast & Secure Trade Lane pilot project within FENIX (*see press release dated October 2020, 14th*), **CIRCLE Group** - specialized in the analysis and development of automation and digitalization solutions for port and intermodal logistics sectors headed by **Circle S.p.A.**, listed on the AIM Italia market organized and managed by Borsa Italiana – communicates the start of a new phase of the pilot in close cooperation with **expert.ai**.

Announced last February (*see press release dated February 2020, 13rd*), the strategic alliance between Circle and the company established in Modena and listed on the AIM Italia market since 2014, started from the perfect complementarity of the solutions offered.

These are respectively, **Milos®** by Circle, and the suite developed by expert.ai, which is capable of processing unstructured content and analyzing, through semantic technology, the meaning of each specific word according to the context.

Fitted into logistics, this means having a joint solution for extraction, through semantic technologies that go far beyond traditional OCR ("*Optical character recognition*") ones, of those pieces of information needed for import/export port procedures.

The main objective is to make full use of logistic digitalization, increasing efficiency and performances, saving time and costs, and improving cooperation between EU and extra-EU Countries.

This solution will become real within the framework of European project FENIX - A European Federated Network of Information eXchange in LogistiXStudy (for which Circle has obtained a contribution of EUR 1.3 million) and of the International Fast & Secure Trade Lane between the ports of La Spezia and Casablanca involving also the **Eastern Ligurian Sea Port Authority** and **Tarros Group**.

In particular, it will allow to read and extract the information related to bills of lading, to the documents accompanying the goods and to all documentation necessary to execute security and customs controls.

As explained by Luca Abatello, President & CEO at Circle "This smart digitalization plan will



allow to collect from paper documents all data and to integrate them with IoT devices (antennas, seals and readers), thus generating increasingly effective customs security procedures, consistent with the advanced tools of customs digitalization of Customs and monopoly agency, stakeholder of this project”.

***CIRCLE Group** is specialized in the analysis and development of **innovation and digitalization solutions for the port and intermodal logistics sectors**. The Group is headed by **Circle S.p.A.**, the Innovative SME **listed on the AIM Italia market of Borsa Italiana** since October 26th, 2018 (alphanumeric code: CIRC; ISIN code for ordinary shares: IT. 0005344996).*

*Besides Circle, belong to the Group software houses **Info.era** and **Progetto Adele**, purchased respectively at the end of 2017 and in July 2019.*

*Synergies between Circle, Info.era and Progetto Adele allowed the Group to expand the portfolio of solutions offered in the fields of IoT, Optimisation, Digital Twin, Big Data and Process Automation, and to strengthen its software products: **Milos®** - the suite for all players of intermodal logistics such as inland terminals, port terminals, ports, MTOs and shipping agencies -, **Sinfomar®** - the Port Community System of port of Trieste -, **Master SPED®** and **Master TRADE®** solutions - respectively dedicated to shipping and logistics, and to commerce and industry.*

*Lastly, with **Connecting EU**, Circle supports Public Entities and Companies by identifying their positioning at European level (**EU Branding**) and funding opportunities (**Project Anticipation**). The joint venture agreement, announced on November 30th, 2020 with **Magellan**, Portuguese entity delivering advocacy services towards the European Institutions, will enable Circle to expand its international geography in the Iberian Peninsula, strengthen its presence in Brussels and take maximum advantages from opportunities related to **Next Generation EU Recovery Fund**.*

For further information

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