

## PRESS RELEASE

CIRCLE GROUP: supports through Info.era the path of digitization of HHLA PLT Italy with a solution for managing and controlling people's access to the new Multipurpose Terminal in the Port of Trieste

Trieste, 21st March 2022

<u>CIRCLE Group</u>, specialized in the analysis and development of innovative digitization solutions for port and intermodal logistics headed by Circle S.p.A. (listed on Euronext Growth Milan market), supports through subsidiary <u>Info.era</u> the path of digitization of <u>HHLA PLT Italy</u> with a solution for managing and controlling people's access to the new Multipurpose Terminal in the Port of Trieste.

Located at Scalo Legnami with new-equipped berth for Ro/Ro and cargo ships and rail tracks able to accommodate 600 metre-long trains, the Multipurpose terminal HHLA PLT Italy Srl was inaugurated on January 7<sup>th</sup> 2021 and is majority-owned by HHLA International GmbH, together with shareholders Francesco Parisi Casa di Spedizioni S.p.A., I.CO.P S.p.A. and Interporto di Bologna S.p.A.

The provided solution, which is already in use in various terminals of the Port of Trieste, combines a hardware component (a document reader) with a software for reading and storing in a database all information and data contained in the passports.

In this way, people's access to the platform (regular operators, drivers, freight forwarders, shipping agents, occasional visitors, crews of the ship, etc.) is faster both incoming and outgoing.

In addition, the system avoids the manual entry of data and eliminates reading and transcription errors.

Antonio Barbara, CEO at HHLA PLT Italy said: "We are always looking for optimized custom solutions, able to be well combined and integrated with our systems and supporting efficiency. Gate is the first welcome to our customers, where our commitment to an efficient, quick and easy technology experience starts. Info.era provided the right tool and the right team".

Luca Abatello, CEO at CIRCLE Group added: "We are particularly pleased that our constant focus on digitalisation and technological innovation for the terminal, industry and transport world is recognised also by this very important international operator".



For CIRCLE, this cooperation is relevant also in the strategic perspective of 2024 roadmap "Connect 4 Agile Growth" to support all users of the logistic chain to have an increasingly usable, smart, green and federative supply chain exploiting also intermodal components that can reduce costs, pollution and energy consumption.

CIRCLE Group is the Group specialized in the analysis and development of innovation and digitalization solutions for the port and intermodal logistics sectors headed by Circle S.p.A., Innovative SME listed on the Euronext Growth Milan 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 strenghten its software products: Milos® - the suite for all players of intermodal logistics such as inland terminals, port terminals, ports, MTOs and shipping agencies, Sinfomar - Port Community System -, Master SPED® and Master TRADE® solutions - respectively dedicated to shipping and logistics, and to commerce and industry.

With Circle Connecting EU, Circle supports Public Entities and Companies by identifying their positioning at European level (EU Branding) and funding opportunities (Project Anticipation).

Moreover, thanks to the joint venture agreement and purchase of Magellan Circle, Portuguese entity delivering advocacy services towards the European Institutions, Circle Connecting EU offers further services at European level, regarding the Iberian Peninsula, having strengthened its presence in Brussels and taken maximum advantages from opportunities linked to the Next Generation EU Recovery Fund. Lastly, Circle leads Log@Sea, network of enterprises to enhance its evolved solutions for Gate Automation of ports and intermodal hubs.

## For further information

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