



16 April 2013

## **ONE YEAR OF ELITE: 100 STORIES OF SUCCESS LOOKING AT THE FUTURE**

- **37 new companies join ELITE**
- **They join the other 63 SMEs participating in ELITE since 2012**

ELITE, the project of Borsa Italiana launched last year and dedicated to SMEs, celebrates its first anniversary today reaching the important goal of 100 companies.

ELITE was born last year to support non listed Italian SMEs to grow, helping them to be more attractive for investors and to access to capital markets.

The 100 companies were selected by Borsa Italiana and an independent evaluation committee composed of Guido Corbetta, Stefano Paleari, Salvatore Bragantini, according to specific requirements such as the profit in the last financial year, the operating earnings more than 5 per cent of turnover, and the minimum turnover of €10 million (or less, if there is a high growth rate).

The companies have annual revenues of between €7 million and €480 million and an average annual growth rate of 23 per cent.

The 37 new companies represent a diverse range of sectors, sizes and locations. They cover sectors including fashion, chemistry, industrial engineering, telecommunications, food and beverage, automobiles and components, ICT, and logistics.

They are regionally distributed as follow: 13 from Lombardia, 8 from Veneto, 5 from Toscana, 4 from Campania, 4 from Emilia Romagna, 1 from Lazio, 1 from Basilicata and 1 from Umbria.

**“And many more to come” – This is the wishes made by Raffaele Jerusalemi, CEO of Borsa Italiana, said at the opening event – “ELITE is the new way of communication with companies, helping them to approach to capital markets and to get in touch with investor community as of now”.**

**Luca Peyrano, Head of Continental Europe Primary Markets at Borsa Italiana, said:**

“ELITE is a challenge started last year and that allowed us to select some of the most excellent companies in Italy. Our ambition is to offer them real tools to grow. Listing is only one of the opportunities offered by ELITE. We strongly believe that this project can really help SMEs to get efficiency, management and transparency like listed companies”.

Today Borsa Italiana even announced an agreement with SACE to promote and develop ELITE project through number of activities and tools tailored for ELITE companies.

The partnership will allow ELITE companies to have available the wide range of tools offered by SACE such as insurance and financial instruments useful to improve the competitiveness on international markets and to strengthen the performance on ELITE SMEs.

SACE joins the other institutional partners of Borsa Italiana (MEF, Confindustria, ABI, Bocconi, Italian Investment Fund, Simest) to support ELITE project.

It was also announced a partnership with Fondo centrale di garanzia per le Piccole e Medie Imprese in order to support ELITE companies to access to credit and equity giving them public guarantee.

The 37 companies joining ELITE today are:

Alessandro Rosso Incentive, Alfaparf, Arav Fashion, Assist, BAT, Biolchim, CMD - Costruzioni Motori Diesel, Distillerie Branca, Docflow, Eurostampaggi, Eurotel, GIMI, Giunti, Goldlake, Gruppo Germani, KIIAN, La Patria, Labomar, Magaldi, Marco Bicego, Marsilli, Masi, MCS Italy, Mesgo, Midac, Monnalisa, Neomobile, Nuceria Adesivi, Objectway, Pixartprinting, Saati, Sapio, SELENE, Surgital, Tech-Value, WIIT, Zucchetti Centro Sistemi.

ELITE on Twitter: @BorsaitalianaIT

#ELITEBorsaitaliana

**For further information, please contact:**

Oriana Pagano  
Federica Marotti

Media Relations +39 02 72426.360  
[media.relations@borsaitaliana.it](mailto:media.relations@borsaitaliana.it)

**Borsa Italiana**

Borsa Italiana S.p.A. is one of Europe's largest and most established stock exchanges with more than 330 companies listed across its markets. The Italian Exchange operates markets trading in Italian equities, bonds and derivatives. Markets include the MIV and STAR segments as well as IDEM, MOT, ETFPlus and AIM Italia Mercato Alternativo del Capitale for small cap companies. Since October 2007 Borsa Italiana has been part of the international diversified exchange business, London Stock Exchange Group.