

CDP Venture Capital leader of a system project for the digital transition and innovation of the nautical and port logistics supply chains

- **8.7 million euros of initial funding for the "Nautical and Port Logistics Supply Chains Venture Builder" project**
- **Objective: create 10 new companies in 3 years with a collection target of about 70 million euros to fill technological gaps and keep the network of SMEs operating in the sector competitive**
- **Primary investors involved, leading companies and institutions such as the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region, the Municipality of Genoa, the Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo, Friulia, Confindustria Genoa, Intesa Sanpaolo, Bridgemaker, Cariplo Factory, Fincantieri and PSA Italy**

Rome, 29 July 2024 – CDP Venture Capital is the leader of an ambitious venture building project entirely dedicated to the digital transition of Italian SMEs operating in the nautical and port logistics supply chains.

Through the Boost Innovation Fund, CDP Venture Capital – in agreement with the Ministry for Business and Made in Italy – has promoted the establishment of a special purpose vehicle dedicated to the construction and launch of new business initiatives that will develop products or services for the digitisation and innovation of SMEs operating in the nautical and port logistics supply chains.

With an **investment of 8.7 million euros, the objective of the "Nautical and Port Logistics Supply Chains Venture Builder" project is to create 10 new companies over the next three years that will receive subsequent equity investments** by CDP Venture Capital's Boost Innovation Fund (the AMC's corporate venture building fund) **amounting to about 30 million euros**, which will **generate an additive effect on the market that will bring total investments to about 70 million euros**. The new companies generated will be able to contribute to bridging the process and technology gaps of SMEs developing components and services in the shipbuilding, yachting, cruise and port logistics sectors.

Investors in the venture building project include **Bridgemaker**, a German venture builder; **Cariplo Factory**, one of the most important open innovation hubs in Italy, which will operate in joint venture as venture builder partners managing the construction of the new initiatives; **Fincantieri**, a world leader in shipbuilding; **PSA Italy**, which has three container terminals in Italy and handles 25% of the country's imports and exports; the **Intesa Sanpaolo** Group, Italy's largest bank and one of the largest in Europe, through the Sei Fund - Sviluppo ecosistemi innovativi of **Neva Sgr**, the Group's venture capital company; **Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo**, which supports the development of the Genoa and Liguria area; and **Friulia**, financial institution of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia region, which supports local development.

The Intesa Sanpaolo Group will also contribute through the consultancy of **Intesa Sanpaolo Innovation Center**, a company dedicated to the promotion and development of innovation – which controls **Neva Sgr** – and will support the interaction between project management and the ecosystem of SMEs belonging to the production chains involved.

The Institutional Partners include the **Municipality of Genoa**, which will host the company's Genoa operations in the spaces of the Genoa Blue District, the **Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region**, which will host the company's Trieste operations in its spaces, and **Confindustria Genova**.

The Nautical and Port Logistics Venture Builder programme will operate in the two permanent locations of **Trieste** and **Genoa**.

*"Maritime transport is a key element of the global economy and Italian ports have driven the development of our country for centuries. The maritime economy is made up of a network of small and medium-sized enterprises that today must be able to cope with the profound technological and production transformations that are taking place", remarked **Agostino Scornajenchi, Chief Executive Officer and General Manager of CDP Venture Capital**. "The venture building project for the nautical and port supply chain starts from a system approach based on a strong boost from the Ministry for Business and Made in Italy and reflects the needs expressed by the large industrial groups at the head of the supply chain, in order to support the SMEs that represent its backbone, developing the individual components and ensuring the competitiveness of the entire model".*

"The venture building project for the nautical and port sector is one of the most ambitious innovation initiatives, not only in Italy but also at the European level. Launching 10 start-ups in three years is a great challenge, but we are convinced that, thanks to the involvement and contribution of industrial, financial and institutional partners, we will be able to accelerate the competitiveness of the entire sector", explained **Enrico Noseda, Chief Executive Officer of the company created and Chief Innovation Advisor of Cariplo Factory**. *"The international team we have put together for this project, made up of innovation specialists from Bridgemaker and Cariplo Factory, will operate both in Genoa and Trieste, beginning its work by focusing on the innovation needs of the supply chain and then identifying high-potential solutions to be developed through MVPs (Minimum Viable Products). These prototypes will give rise to the new companies to be brought to the market".*

Pierroberto Folgiero, Chief Executive Officer and General Manager of Fincantieri, commented, *"Fincantieri sees in this ambitious programme devised by CDP Venture Capital an extraordinary opportunity to accelerate the digital transition and innovation of SMEs operating in the shipbuilding and port sectors. As leaders in the supply chain, we firmly believe that our role is to connect the dots and make things happen, including by fostering the development of entrepreneurial ideas and innovative solutions, transforming them into businesses that are actively engaged in the market. This initiative will not only fill existing technology gaps, but also represent a decisive step towards a sustainable and highly competitive future for our industry. We thank the Municipality of Genoa, the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region and Friulia for believing in the project".*

"Innovation, sustainability and competitiveness: PSA Italy has chosen to be a partner in this project in order to be part of the process of technological acceleration of the port logistics supply chain, which is increasingly necessary as much as it is inevitable", said **Roberto Ferrari, Chief Executive Officer of PSA Italy**. *"This is a project that, thanks to important capital partners such as the Intesa Sanpaolo Group and Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo and the institutional support of Confindustria Genoa and the Municipality of Genoa, will lead to the development of new tools that will give added value not only to our company and its innovation process, but also to the SMEs operating in the port logistics supply chains, contributing to a sustainable and highly competitive future for the entire sector".*

CDP Venture Capital SGR

CDP Venture Capital is an asset management company 70% owned by CDP Equity and 30% by Invitalia, set up with the aim of building the Italy of tomorrow, putting innovation at the centre of the country's economic development and investing in a new generation of entrepreneurs to regain the driving role in all creative fields, from science to technology, that has always distinguished us. CDP Venture Capital manages 13 investment funds, amounting to over EUR 3.5 billion in resources that support innovative companies at all stages of their life cycle, making both direct and indirect investments (funds of funds).

Bridgemaker

Bridgemaker is the leading independent venture builder in Europe and is based in Berlin. Over eight years, Bridgemaker has supported the growth of private equity funds, SMEs and multinational companies through the start-up and scale-up of new business ventures. Bridgemaker's wide range of services includes venture building, business building, increasing the value of the companies in its portfolio and the use of artificial intelligence within companies.

Cariplo Factory

Cariplo Factory is one of Italy's leading innovation hubs and is mainly focused on two transformative trends: digital transformation and the circular economy. Cariplo Factory develops and implements open innovation programmes, providing experiential training, entrepreneurial support programmes, collaboration projects between talents, start-ups and companies, Venture Capital investments and internationalisation support activities. Cariplo Factory was founded in 2016 by Fondazione Cariplo and acts through an inclusive model involving a national network of universities, technology transfer centres, incubators, accelerators, fablabs, science technology parks, start-ups, business angels, venture capital funds, SMEs and corporates. Cariplo Factory is a Benefit Company.

Fincantieri

Fincantieri is one of the world's leading shipbuilding complexes, the only one active in all areas of high-tech shipbuilding. It is a leader in the construction and conversion of cruise, military and offshore vessels in the oil & gas and wind power sectors, as well as in the production of systems and components, after-sales services and ship furnishing solutions. Thanks to the skills it has developed in the management of complex projects, the Group boasts accomplishments of excellence in infrastructure, and is a leading player in digital and cybersecurity, electronics and advanced systems.

With over 230 years of history and more than 7,000 ships built, Fincantieri maintains its know-how and headquarters in Italy, where it employs 10,000 people and provides around 90,000 jobs, which double on a global scale thanks to a production network of 18 factories on three continents and more than 22,000 direct workers.

PSA Italy

PSA Italy operates in Genoa and Venice in the terminals of PSA Genova Pra', PSA SECH and PSA VENICE - Vecon, for a total of more than 2 million TEUs handled per year and more than 1,000 people directly employed in Italy. <https://www.psaitaly.com/>

PSA Italy is part of PSA International (PSA), a leading port group and a trusted partner for freight operators. PSA's global network operates with more than 170 locations in 45 countries around the world, and comprises 66 terminals including port, rail and inland terminals, as well as affiliated distriparks, warehouse and maritime and digital services operations. PSA works actively with customers and partners around the globe to offer world-class port services and develop innovative cargo solutions. As the partner of choice in the global supply chain, PSA is "The World's Port of Call".

Intesa Sanpaolo Innovation Center

Intesa Sanpaolo Innovation Center is the Intesa Sanpaolo Group company dedicated to frontier innovation. It explores scenarios and future trends, develops multidisciplinary applied research projects, supports start-ups, accelerates the business transformation of companies based on Open Innovation and Circular Economy criteria, encourages the development of innovative ecosystems and spreads the culture of innovation, making Intesa Sanpaolo the driving force behind a more aware, inclusive and sustainable economy. With headquarters on the 31st floor of the Intesa Sanpaolo skyscraper and a national and international network of research hubs and laboratories, the Innovation Center is an enabler of relations with other stakeholders in the innovation ecosystem – such as companies, start-ups, incubators, research centres, universities and national and international institutions – and a promoter of new forms of entrepreneurship in accessing risk capital, with the support of venture capital funds, also thanks to its subsidiary Neva Sgr.

www.intesasanpaoloinnovationcenter.com

Neva Sgr

Neva Sgr, part of the Intesa Sanpaolo Group and wholly owned by Intesa Sanpaolo Innovation Center, designs and manages investment funds for professional investors interested in seizing the diversification and high-yield opportunities offered by venture capital investments. Neva SGR is able to rely on the strength, financial resources, know-how and network of relationships of the Intesa

Sanpaolo Innovation Center and the Intesa Sanpaolo Group, a unique source of value in the market. Neva SGR follows trends and markets from a privileged position and acts with the strength and responsibility of Italy's leading banking group. Intesa Sanpaolo Innovation Center has invested in Neva First, the investment fund designed for high-tech, high-innovation start-ups of excellence that exploit trends with exponential growth potential. Neva Sgr perfectly combines the Intesa Sanpaolo Group's strength, reputation and stability with the best practices of international venture capital firms. Neva SGR aims to contribute to the growth of the Italian economy through investments in new technologies and to be the market maker of the venture capital asset class in Italy.

www.nevasgr.com

Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo

Since 1563 we have been working for the common good, placing people at the heart of our actions. The well-being of each individual depends on and contributes to that of the community, which is why we work on the dimensions that impact both individuals and society at large: the economic, social, cultural and environmental. We believe in subsidiarity, in dialogue as a method, in philanthropy that fuels ideas and projects. Human development and sustainability: the UN's 2030 Agenda has set an important challenge, indicating the Sustainable Development Goals that everyone must contribute to, in a joint effort. We have taken up this challenge and organised ourselves to align and work even more effectively at the local, European and international levels. We study, design projects, experiment, evaluate, and promote replicability, networking with institutions, our supporting entities, and all sectors of society. We organise our efforts around three Goals: Culture, People and Planet. To ensure maximum impact, we have identified 14 Missions, each of which contributes to one of the three Goals. All this is made possible by the existence of our heritage, which we are committed to preserving and expanding, for future generations. This is our commitment, for the common good and for the future of all.

Friulia Spa

Regional financial institution of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia region established in 1967 with the aim of promoting the region's economic development. Friulia bolsters regional SMEs by taking minority stakes in venture capital to support the growth of companies and facilitate financial solutions for a balanced development. It offers strategic support through constant discussions with its professionals. For smaller companies it provides a mentoring service focused on economic, financial, organisational and management aspects. Through the adoption of an Impact Investment Strategy, it contributes to disseminating the goals of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. To date, Friulia has invested more than 200 million euros in about 90 investee companies and is implementing numerous other services for SMEs such as money & coaching, minibonds and tools for relaunching businesses.

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