



ELITE Basket Bond: ELITE launches first bond transaction in partnership with Banca Finint

- **Ten ELITE companies included in first ELITE Basket Bond; €122 million ten-year bond structured and distributed by Banca Finint**
- **European Investment Bank and Cassa Depositi e Prestiti are lead investors**
- **The ELITE Basket Bond is a unique way of providing debt financing to ELITE companies and offers an exclusive opportunity to invest in the real economy**
- **ELITE is London Stock Exchange Group's international business support and capital raising programme for high-growth businesses**
- **700 companies from across 27 countries make up growing ELITE community**

Today ELITE, London Stock Exchange Group's business support and capital raising programme, launches the first ELITE Basket Bond. The €122 million ten-year bond is made up of ten well performing and innovative Italian ELITE companies. It also marks the first closed financial transaction on ELITE Club Deal, ELITE's private placement platform for ELITE companies and professional investors.

ELITE and Banca FININT, through its subsidiary FISG, have developed an innovative 'basket' solution, designed to support access to funding for ELITE companies. A group of ELITE companies each issue a bond with similar characteristics, such as tax rate and maturity date, but for different values. These individual bonds are then grouped together under a securitisation transaction carried out by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV). The SPV issues an asset backed security through the ELITE Club Deal platform, which is the sum of each instrument. The shares are guaranteed by the issuing companies.

ELITE companies will use the proceeds of the bond to support their growth activities. The SPV bonds have been offered to institutional investors through ELITE Club Deal.

The ten ELITE companies include: Damiano, Irritec, L. Molteni & C. dei F.lli Alitti, M.E.P. Macchine Elettroniche Piegatrici, Objectway Group, Officine Metallurgiche G. Cornaglia, Peuterey, Radio Dimensione Suono, Svas Biosana, Tecnocap.

European Investment Bank (EIB) and Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP) are the lead investors. They have been engaged in the due diligence process and have approved 50 per cent and 33 per cent respectively of



Press Release

12 December 2017



the total value of the ELITE basket bond. A number of other professional investors, including Banca IFIS and Zenit SGR, have endorsed the project .

Grimaldi Studio Legale assisted the issuers and Studio Legale RCC assisted the whole operation.

Luca Peyrano, CEO of ELITE commented:

“The ELITE Basket Bond is a ground-breaking innovation for ELITE and displays the wide range of alternative and innovative financial instruments available to Italian companies. The new instrument provides efficient access to capital and contributes to lowering the cost of funding for companies.

“Today’s ELITE Basket Bond is the first closed financial transaction on ELITE Club Deal and is dedicated to a selected pool of Italian quality companies. The ELITE Basket Bond structure values the excellence of entrepreneurial Italian companies, reinforcing their value and their international capital markets presence. It is a unique opportunity for investors to fund Italy’s business stars and I am confident that it will become a reference for other countries in the future.”

Enrico Marchi, Presidente of Banca FININT:

“ELITE Basket Bond confirms Banca Finint’s commitment and ability to develop financial innovation. Working with local Italian businesses, it aims to support the development of companies and the real economy. The operation is further confirmation, after the Viveracqua Hydrobond experience, that private and public Italian companies can achieve funding through a ‘basket’ solution.”

Milena Messori, Head of Division of the European Investment Bank (EIB), said:

“The EIB is proud to be able to provide a new financial instrument to small and mid cap Italian companies and to contribute to reducing a structural gap between demand and supply in access to the capital markets. This operation represents an important change by the European Union Bank that, thanks to the European Fund for Strategic Investments, offers a growing number of alternative instruments to traditional forms of banking intermediation. The ELITE Basket Bond has allowed the market to test a new financing instrument that we hope we will be able to replicate in other European markets.”



London
Stock Exchange Group

Press Release

12 December 2017



Antonella Baldino, Chief Business Officer CDP:

“By investing in ELITE we have set the goal to promote the growth of alternative financing in Italy to develop a capital market culture among Italian SMEs. Today we achieve a first important result: together with the EIB, within the ‘Juncker Plan’ framework, we have developed an innovative investment instrument that is also complementary to the traditional channels and will allow the involved companies to cover their financial mid-term needs.”

For further details::

Federica Marotti
Oriana Pagano

+39 02 7242 6360
media.relations@borsaitaliana.it

Alexandra Ritterman

+44 (0)20 7797 1222
newsroom@lseg.com



[@ ELITEGroup](#)

ELITE

ELITE is a company of the London Stock Exchange Group and partner with Cassa Depositi e Prestiti and NUO Capital that acquired minority stakes in ELITE, whose mission is to support private and public companies connecting with capital using the digital technology. ELITE offers a complete suite of solutions from education, to capital raising and investor relations management. ELITE is a Community of more than 700 companies from 27 countries, over 150 advisors and 100 international investors.

ELITE Growth is the dedicated business support and capacity building programme for high quality private companies, helping them to accelerate long term growth.

ELITE Club Deal is the private placement platform designed to streamline the capital raising process for ELITE companies and professional investors.

ELITE Connect is the innovative digital network to make corporate access and investor relations easier for listed companies and global investors.



London
Stock Exchange Group