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First group of Portuguese companies joins ELITE, Euronext's private companies ecosystem

- **11 Portuguese companies representing 9 different sectors join ELITE, Euronext's European ecosystem of private companies accelerating sustainable growth and access to private and public capital**
- **First group developed in partnership with the World Trade Center (WTC) Lisboa and the sponsorship of BBVA Bank**
- **Demonstrates Euronext's commitment to serve small and medium private companies as their key growth and financing partner**



Lisbon – 6 July 2023 – Euronext, the leading pan-European market infrastructure, today announced the first group of Portuguese companies joining ELITE, Euronext's ecosystem that supports small and medium private companies in their long-term sustainable growth by connecting them to skills, network and capital.

The first Portuguese group includes 11 companies and represents a wide range of sectors from technology to health care, from utilities to consumer goods, and from industrials to basic materials.

This new step in the expansion of ELITE in Portugal kicks off the programme of the recently launched World Trade Center (WTC) Lisboa International Academy by ELITE, based on a methodology already tested on more than 2,000 companies internationally, and on content and experts provided by the NOVA Business School.

This first group of pioneering Portuguese companies joining today will follow a structured programme designed to help businesses to prepare and structure for their next stage of growth, via a learning path and mentoring to support management best practice and entrepreneurship; promoting relationships and opportunities with potential investors; and facilitating access to a full range of funding options, from debt to equity, from private to public capital markets, delivered through:

1. Three core modules (two days each, making a total of six days) held in Portuguese at the NOVA Business School premises with a faculty based on academics and professionals. These will be supported by a pragmatic strategy tool to help the companies build a real and detailed strategic plan over the course of the three modules;

2. A calendar of four international workshops, one per quarter, supported by ELITE partners across Europe, deep-diving into different topics. Workshops already delivered in 2023 have focused on 'Internationalisation' (Lisbon, March), and 'Entrepreneurship' (Amsterdam, June), and will be followed by sessions on 'Sustainability' (Paris, September), and 'Capital Markets opportunities' (Milan, November). These workshops are open to the entire ELITE community and aim to champion the best of Europe's businesses, providing them with cutting-edge business solutions and fostering unparalleled peer-to-peer networking opportunities.
3. Mentoring: high-touch regular contact to assess and debate each company's priorities while supporting them to develop an action plan to implement the key actions defined.
4. Funding options: management teams are guided on how to access the most suitable funding for their needs, whether private equity, private placements or the debt or equity markets, both private and public. Once the company is ready to tackle capital markets opportunities, ELITE can bridge and fast-track its connection with professional counterparties including advisors, intermediaries and institutional investors. The ecosystem now serves a community of more than 1,400 companies from 23 European countries, and a large number of advisers and partners. To date ELITE companies have undertaken more than 1,300 corporate transactions – including M&A, equity and debt raisings, IPOs and debt listings - worth in aggregate approximately €20 billion, highlighting how ambitious companies can be once they are provided with efficient access to skills and relationships to leverage on private and public markets.

Isabel Ucha, CEO of Euronext Lisbon, said: *"I am very excited to see this project kicking-off. This programme will allow these 11 companies to reinforce their knowledge in management, and will provide them with skills to be more ambitious and grow with sustainability. Participating companies will have unique access to an extended network of ELITE peers (over 2,000), and in addition to World Trade Center business centres in more than 300 cities around the world. A strong economy is made up of strong companies. Today's competitive landscape and evolving context requires the use of new tools to take up challenges, manage changes and prepare for the future. And this is a role we are ready to play."*

Marta Testi, CEO of ELITE, said: *"The 11 new Portuguese companies add to the 82 firms that have already joined ELITE since the beginning of 2023, a key year for us as it marks a new phase of growth in Europe as part of the leading pan-European market infrastructure, Euronext. We are thrilled to welcome these ambitious Portuguese companies and to start supporting them with access to skills, network and capital. We would like to thank our partner World Trade Center Lisboa, supported by BBVA as sponsor, which have contribute to the kick-start of ELITE in Portugal, leveraging on internationalisation as a key driver for companies' growth."*

Luciano Montenegro Menezes, CEO of the World Trade Center Lisboa, said: *"We are happy to launch this Academy. The launch of this project helps shape our aligned objective of supporting entrepreneurs and executives in upskilling and empowering their strategies and business opportunities. For WTC Lisboa, this represents a milestone in its strategy of promoting the internationalisation of the Portuguese economy."*

List of companies

Company Name	Sector
Petrotec	Industrial Engineering
Sogenave	Food and Drug Retailers
MCA Group	Gas, Water & Multiutilities
Code For all	Technology Hardware & Equipment



Allprocare	Health Care Equipment & Services
F Camara	Software & Computer Services
C-MORE Sustainability	Software & Computer Services
GRUPO PRIMOR	Food Producers
ONYRIA SGPS SA	Consumer Services
XPLOR-IT Consulting	Software & Computer Services

+ one company that prefers to remain anonymous

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About Euronext

Euronext is the leading pan-European market infrastructure, connecting European economies to global capital markets, to accelerate innovation and sustainable growth. It operates regulated exchanges in Belgium, France, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and Portugal. With close to 1,930 listed issuers and around €6.8 trillion in market capitalisation as of end March 2023, it has an unmatched blue-chip franchise and a strong diverse domestic and international client base. Euronext operates regulated and transparent equity and derivatives markets, one of Europe's leading electronic fixed income trading markets and is the largest centre for debt and funds listings in the world. Its total product offering includes Equities, FX, Exchange Traded Funds, Warrants & Certificates, Bonds, Derivatives, Commodities and Indices. The Group provides a multi-asset clearing house through Euronext Clearing, and custody and settlement services through Euronext Securities central securities depositories in Denmark, Italy, Norway and Portugal. Euronext also leverages its expertise in running markets by providing technology and managed services to third parties. In addition to its main regulated market, it also operates a number of junior markets, simplifying access to listing for SMEs.

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About ELITE, a Euronext company

ELITE, launched in 2012 by Borsa Italiana and now part of Euronext Group, is the European network of private companies which accelerates the process to access private and public capital markets. ELITE's mission is to support companies by connecting them to capital, skills and network to drive their sustainable growth in the long-term.

Based on a unique offer of services and solutions, ELITE combines a calendar of workshops and coaching sessions, supporting entrepreneurs and executives in upskilling and empowering their strategic plan and business opportunities. ELITE Companies' management teams are also guided on how to fast-track their development and how to access the most suitable funding options for their needs, whether this is Basket Bonds®, institutional investors, private equity, venture capital or equity markets. With over 2,000 companies and 200 partners admitted since the launch, about €20 billion has been raised by ELITE businesses through 1,300+ corporate transactions, highlighting how dynamic SMEs are once they are provided with an efficient access to private and public markets.

www.elite-network.com

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