

**Contacts Media**

Amsterdam +31 20 721 4133  
Dublin +33 1 70 48 24 45  
Milan +39 02 72 42 62 12  
Paris +33 1 70 48 24 45

Brussels +31 20 721 4133  
Lisbon +351 210 600 614  
Oslo +47 41 69 59 10

**Contact Investor Relations**

+33 1 70 48 24 27

## Euronext launches European SME ecosystem ELITE for Dutch private companies

- **ELITE is Euronext's European ecosystem of private companies accelerating growth and access to private and public capital**
- **Roll-out in Euronext countries as part of ELITE's international expansion strategy**
- **Developed for Dutch market in partnership with three local partners: Erasmus Centre for Entrepreneurship (ECE), ScaleUp Company and nlgroeit**

**Amsterdam – 14 June 2023** – Euronext today launches ELITE, its European ecosystem supporting private SMEs, in the Netherlands in collaboration with three leading Dutch partners: the Erasmus Centre for Entrepreneurship (ECE), ScaleUp Company and nlgroeit. ELITE is a valuable solution for ambitious private companies from any sector who are looking improve their growth strategy and also offers the possibility to explore alternative funding options.

The ELITE programme combines a calendar of workshops and coaching sessions, supporting entrepreneurs and executives in upskilling and empowering their strategic plan and business opportunities and the expansion of their network of international peers. ELITE companies' management teams are also guided on how to speed up their development and how to access the most suitable funding options for their needs: from debt to equity, from private to public. Participating companies typically have revenues of around €50 million+, (spanning from €10 to €300 million), with good historic growth and future potential.

Euronext acquired ELITE as part of the acquisition of the Borsa Italiana Group in 2021, and has since been strongly committed to expanding the programme in Euronext countries as part of Euronext's "Growth for Impact 2024" strategic plan. The expansion of the programme in the Netherlands follows the commitment to launch the ecosystem in Portugal earlier this year.

ELITE focuses on developing leadership skills and growth strategies, creating a broader network and providing access to new sources of capital or to unlock available capital. 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 worth in aggregate approximately €20 billion, highlighting how active SMEs can be once they are provided with efficient access to private and public markets.

The programme will kick off in the Netherlands this October and will welcome up to 15 companies meeting the criteria each year. The three Dutch partners are involved in both the development and implementation of the growth programme.

Marta Testi, Chief Executive Officer of ELITE, said: *"I am delighted to kick-start ELITE in the Netherlands leveraging on Euronext's European footprint, Euronext Amsterdam and our trusted local partners, with whom we launch ELITE for the Netherlands and who become part of our global ELITE ecosystem. We look forward to supporting vibrant Dutch businesses, providing them with*

*access to the skills, relationships, and capital they need to achieve their potential. We recognise that these companies are the innovators, job creators and drivers of economic prosperity."*

Kees de Jong, Co-Founder of nlgroeit, said: *"The ELITE programme is a very valuable addition to the development opportunities available to Dutch companies. Especially for leaders who want to give an extra boost to development, this programme is extremely suitable."*

Professor Dr Justin Jansen, Scientific Director of the Erasmus Centre for Entrepreneurship (ECE), said: *"Many companies with revenues of around €30 to €40 million face significant challenges when it comes to strategy and anchoring profitable growth, which is precisely what we focus on in this curriculum."*

Mirik Castro, Chief Executive Officer of ScaleUp Company, said: *"Besides choosing the right growth strategy and the underlying planning, its execution is especially crucial for companies. The right guidance can help significantly in this regard."*

#### **MEDIA CONTACT – [mediateam@euronext.com](mailto:mediateam@euronext.com)**

Marianne Aalders (Amsterdam, Brussels) +31 20 721 41 33

[maalders@euronext.com](mailto:maalders@euronext.com)

#### **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](http://www.elite-network.com)

#### **About ECE**

Erasmus Centre for Entrepreneurship is part of Erasmus University and focuses on developing entrepreneurship and innovation through research and education. [www.ece.nl](http://www.ece.nl)

#### **About ScaleUp Company**

ScaleUp Company focuses on developing scale-ups through growth programmes largely based on the world-famous Scaling Up method. [www.scaleupcompany.com](http://www.scaleupcompany.com)

#### **About nlgroeit**

Nlgroeit is a foundation aimed at encouraging sustainable growth among SME entrepreneurs, through events, peer-learning and offering a very large mentoring network. [www.nlgroeit.nl](http://www.nlgroeit.nl)

#### **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.

For the latest news, go to [euronext.com](http://euronext.com) or follow us on Twitter ([twitter.com/euronext](https://twitter.com/euronext)) and LinkedIn ([linkedin.com/euronext](https://linkedin.com/euronext)).

#### **Disclaimer**

This press release is for information purposes only: it is not a recommendation to engage in investment activities and is provided "as is", without representation or warranty of any kind. While all reasonable care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the content, Euronext does not guarantee its accuracy or completeness. Euronext will not be held liable for any loss or damages of any nature ensuing from using, trusting or acting on information provided. No information set out or referred to in this publication may be regarded as creating any right or obligation. The creation of rights and obligations in respect of financial products that are traded



on the exchanges operated by Euronext's subsidiaries shall depend solely on the applicable rules of the market operator. All proprietary rights and interest in or connected with this publication shall vest in Euronext. This press release speaks only as of this date. Euronext refers to Euronext N.V. and its affiliates. Information regarding trademarks and intellectual property rights of Euronext is available at [www.euronext.com/terms-use](http://www.euronext.com/terms-use).

© 2023, Euronext N.V. - All rights reserved.

The Euronext Group processes your personal data in order to provide you with information about Euronext (the "Purpose"). With regard to the processing of this personal data, Euronext will comply with its obligations under Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and Council of 27 April 2016 (General Data Protection Regulation, "GDPR"), and any applicable national laws, rules and regulations implementing the GDPR, as provided in its privacy statement available at: [www.euronext.com/privacy-policy](http://www.euronext.com/privacy-policy). In accordance with the applicable legislation you have rights with regard to the processing of your personal data: for more information on your rights, please refer to: [www.euronext.com/data\\_subjects\\_rights\\_request\\_information](http://www.euronext.com/data_subjects_rights_request_information). To make a request regarding the processing of your data or to unsubscribe from this press release service, please use our data subject request form at [connect2.euronext.com/form/data-subjects-rights-request](http://connect2.euronext.com/form/data-subjects-rights-request) or email our Data Protection Officer at [dpo@euronext.com](mailto:dpo@euronext.com).

