

ELITE boosted by 20 new European companies

- **20 new companies join ELITE today from across Europe**
- **Companies from France, Greece, Romania, Russia among those to join**
- **ELITE is London Stock Exchange Group's international programme for ambitious high growth businesses**
- **More than 320 companies, 150 advisors, and 90 investors now part of growing ELITE community**
- **21 countries represented across the programme**

London Stock Exchange Group today welcomes a further 20 European companies to ELITE, its innovative support programme for inspiring growth businesses. This comes a month after 41 new businesses from the UK and Italy joined the programme.

New companies from France, Greece, Romania and Russia are among those to become part of the ELITE community, representing a diverse range of sectors including food retailers, manufacturers and software and computers services firms. This brings the total number of companies since ELITE was launched in 2012 to more than 320, generating over €30 billion in combined revenues and accounting for over 120,000 jobs across Europe. 128 companies have joined the programme so far this year.

Designed to help businesses prepare and structure for their next stage of growth, ELITE facilitates company access to a full range of funding options; increase company profile and visibility; promote relationships and opportunities with potential investors; and support management best practice and entrepreneurship.

Raffaele Jerusalmi, CEO, Borsa Italiana and Director of Capital Markets, London Stock Exchange Group said:

“ELITE is playing a significant role in supporting Europe's best, brightest and fastest growing businesses, driving their individual growth and collectively, the economic prosperity of Europe.”

“We warmly welcome the new companies and look forward to continuing to develop the ELITE programme, a community where Europe's ambitious businesses can come together and thrive.”

A recent partnership agreement between ELITE and UniCredit, the Italian global banking and financial services company, with a strong presence in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE), has resulted in close collaboration between the two parties in attracting new companies, specifically from CEE countries, to ELITE.



New European ELITE companies

COMPANY	COUNTRY	SECTOR	DESCRIPTION
Arobs	Romania	Software & Computer Services	IT solutions provider of ready to use systems and tailor-made software
Anix	Russia	Food & drug retailers	Food retail company
APS	Bulgaria	Electronic and Electrical Equipment	Producer of thermal printer mechanisms, controller boards and tailor-made thermal printing solutions
Biochem	Romania	Chemicals	Distributor of seeds, pesticides and fertilizers for the agricultural industry
Bizon Tech	Ukraine	Chemicals	Trade and distribute hybrid seeds, pesticides, grain and oilseeds
Coffee Island	Greece	Beverages	Coffee chain operator with over 280 international coffee shops
Fatrom	Romania	Food Producers	Production of feed for the agricultural industry
Gruppa SverdlovElectro	Russia	Electronic and Electrical Equipment	Manufacturer of transformers and other electro technical products
HELL ENERGY	Hungary	Beverages	Energy drinks producer
Henderson	Russia	Personal Goods	Retailer specialising in menswear apparel and accessories
Ionian Technologies	Greece	Mobile Telecommunications	Specialist mobile communications company
Kuminiano Fruit	Bulgaria	Food Producers	Leading cherry producer
KWANKO	France	Software & Computer Services	Performance advertising, internet marketing and revenue optimisation firm
Lysva Metallurgical Company	Russia	Industrial Metals & Mining	Producer and trader of steel coated products
Novi Agrar	Croatia	Food Producers	Wholesaler of grains and mineral fertilizers, animal health protection products, plant protection products, and seed commodities
Palirria	Greece	Food Producers	Leading producer and exporter of Greek specialty foods and ready to eat meals
Petrolsped	Hungary	Industrial transportation	Rail transportation and logistics provider in Central Europe area
SPAN	Croatia	Software & Computer Services	Professional services provider in the design and construction of information systems and technical user support
STEKLARNA HRASTNIK	Slovenia	General Industrials	Producer of top quality glass products
TOKIĆ	Croatia	Automobiles & Parts	Car spare parts retail chain in Croatia



- Ends -

For further information:

Media

Alexandra Ritterman

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

Oriana Pagano

+39 02 7242 6 360
Media.relations@borsaitaliana.it

About ELITE

ELITE offers businesses a full programme to help them grow, including education, training and direct contact with Europe's financial and advisory community, through a unique online portal. Management teams are guided on how best to fast-track their development and capital raising processes, how to access the most suitable funding for their needs, whether private equity, venture capital or the bond or equity markets, and given advice on building their profile and reach.

ELITE also allows its vibrant international advisor and investor community the opportunity to engage with a pool of high quality, dynamic companies and entrepreneurs, all of whom are open to the advice, opportunities and connections that the programme offers.

For further information on the programme, companies and the full list of partners, please go to: www.elite-growth.com

Notes to editors:

About London Stock Exchange Group:

London Stock Exchange Group (LSE.L) is a diversified international market infrastructure and capital markets business sitting at the heart of the world's financial community. The Group can trace its history back to 1698.

The Group operates a broad range of international equity, bond and derivatives markets, including London Stock Exchange; Borsa Italiana; MTS, Europe's leading fixed income market; and Turquoise, a pan-European equities MTF. It is also home to one of the world's leading growth markets for SMEs, AIM. Through its platforms, the Group offers international business and investors unrivalled access to Europe's capital markets.

Post trade and risk management services are a significant part of the Group's business operations. In addition to majority ownership of multi-asset global CCP operator, LCH.Clearnet Group, LSEG operates CC&G, the Italian clearing house; Monte Titoli, the T2S-ready European settlement business; and globeSettle, the Group's newly established CSD based in Luxembourg.

The Group is a global leader in indexing and analytic solutions. FTSE Russell offers thousands of indexes that measure and benchmark markets around the world. The Group also provides customers with an extensive range of real time and reference data products, including SEDOL, UnaVista, and RNS.

Press Release



London
Stock Exchange Group

London Stock Exchange Group is a leading developer of high performance trading platforms and capital markets software for customers around the world. Currently, over 40 organisations and exchanges use the Group's MillenniumIT trading, surveillance and post trade technology, including the Group's own markets.

Headquartered in London, with significant operations in North America, Italy, France and Sri Lanka, the Group employs approximately 4,700 people.

Further information on London Stock Exchange Group can be found at www.lseg.com