

Tuesday, 24th March 2009

8TH STAR CONFERENCE OF BORSA ITALIANA TO BE HELD IN MILAN, AS THE TRADITIONAL SUMMIT OF THE FINANCIAL COMMUNITY

Borsa Italiana announces that the 8th Star Conference will take place in Milan on March 24 and 25.

During the event, companies listed on Borsa Italiana Star segment will meet leading national and international investors.

Today the STAR segment includes 73 listed companies, which represent the 26% of the total number of companies on the Exchange, and has a combined market capitalisation of €13bl.

During 2008 STAR companies achieved a positive growth with annual revenues up 13% and a 10% annual increase in margins.

Governance and levels of free float exceed the requirements of Borsa Italiana's rules significantly this year: 37% of STAR companies have more independent board directors than required by the rules, and the average free float is 39%, though the minimum required by the rules is 20%.

The companies (67) attending the 8th edition of the STAR Conference will have the opportunity to participate more than 700 meetings with 90 institutional investors, where more than 50% is represented by international investors. The participation to this initiative shows their commitment to guarantee regular transparency to the Markets.

The Conference will host presentations, which will be opened to all the participants, as well as one-to-one meetings between STAR companies and investors.

During the STAR Conference the Equity Markets Partners of Borsa Italiana - banks, legal and auditing firms, communication agencies and finance professionals - will have the opportunity to present their activities that, alongside the Exchange, contribute to support listed companies' development strategies.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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