

MAPS GROUP PARTICIPATES IN THE "HERO" PROJECT TO OPTIMIZE THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF LARGE-SCALE INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

The project, which lasts 24 months, includes co-financing of approximately 270,000 euros

Parma, 04th November 2024,

In a legislative and socio-economic context where operators are incentivized, if not obligated, to reduce their emissions and, more generally, to use energy more effectively, Maps Group intends to develop an innovative product in which a highly specialized computer system is capable of autonomously and optimally managing the thermal and cooling energy necessary for its clients' businesses.

The HERO project, funded by the Autonomous Province of Trento, aims to develop innovative forecasting algorithms using Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems and optimization based on Mixed-Integer Linear Programming (MILP), applied to the energy efficiency of large-scale industrial systems and commercial buildings.

The project focuses on two different aspects:

- **Optimization of the refrigeration process** in food companies to reduce associated costs. In this area, HERO intends to define and implement an AI system capable of modeling and automating the manual configurations made by technicians, based on best practices and experience.
- **Optimization of environmental comfort** in large commercial buildings such as shopping centers, offices, and airports, where it plays a central role in the well-being and health of both employees and customers. In this area, HERO proposes an automatic solution for comfort optimization, based on AI, capable of predicting the building's future behavior and configuring heating and cooling systems to ensure an adequate level of comfort while simultaneously minimizing energy costs.

The project involves the participation of the subsidiary Energenius S.r.l. and the company Ape Servizi S.r.l., specialized in energy consulting for industrial and commercial clients.

The algorithms and products developed will be validated by three pilot clients who will participate in the project as data providers:

- **The Melinda consortium**, which annually trades about 400,000 tons of apples produced by over 4,000 members grouped into 16 cooperatives. The pilot project will involve 5 production facilities of the consortium in Val di Non (TN).
- Segata S.p.A., in the municipality of Cadine (TN), which has been producing and preserving traditional cured meats for over 60 years.
- **Shop Center Valsugana**, in Pergine Valsugana (TN), one of the largest shopping centers in the province of Trento, arranged over two floors and featuring more than 50 shops, including a supermarket and department stores, as well as various dining outlets.







Gian Luca Cattani, R&D Director of Maps Group, comments: "The results of the HERO project will allow Maps Group to continue the innovation process of our software solutions, indicating a clear positioning in a constantly evolving market oriented towards energy efficiency and flexibility. This project represents an important opportunity for us to develop advanced technologies that help our clients optimize energy consumption and reduce environmental impact. We are excited to collaborate with excellent partners and to actively contribute to the energy transition, offering cutting-edge solutions that combine sustainability and competitiveness".

MAPS GROUP

Maps S.p.A., founded in 2002 and listed on the EGM segment of Borsa Italiana since 2019, is an Innovative SME at the head of Maps Group, with over 300 employees, headquartered in Parma, and 12 offices across Italy. The company operates in the context of Digital Transformation, focusing on the Healthcare, Energy, and ESG sectors. Through its products, it enables clients to extract value from data to make better decisions and innovate their Business and Operative Models.

Thanks to the "Maps Healthcare" Business Unit, it oversees the innovative trends of Patient Experience and Telehealth, as well as providing Diagnostic and Hospital Information Systems to public and private entities. With the "Maps Energy" Business Unit, it offers solutions for monitoring, optimizing, and controlling complex energy systems and Energy Communities. Finally, through the "Maps ESG" Business Unit, it makes solutions capable of measuring the achievement of corporate and personal goals, managing risks, and sharing non-financial performance. Additionally, with "MapsLab" Business Unit, it operates in an Open Innovation context, outside the strategic markets of the Group (Healthcare, Energy, ESG), to meet specific needs through tailor-made products or solutions for Best in Class clients in their respective markets. The Group is also strongly committed to Research and Development. The "Research & Solutions" division is responsible for identifying market needs and evolving the products.

Maps Group ended 2023 with consolidated revenues of 27.5 million euros (+11% compared to 2022), an EBITDA of 5.0 million euros (18% EBITDA Margin), and a Net Financial Position of 12.5 million euros (13.8 million euros in 2022).

Confirming the transformation of its business model, over the last five years Maps Group has almost quintupled its revenues from products (22.3 million in 2023, representing 83% of consolidated revenues) and more than quadrupled its recurring revenues (11.3 million in 2023, accounting for 41% of consolidated revenues), consolidating scalability and diversification, at the expense of a decrease in tailor-made projects that previously characterized the revenue structure.

The organic growth has always been complemented by significant M&A activity. Over the years, several companies have been acquired: IG Consulting S.r.l. (2011), Artexe S.p.A. (2018), Roialty S.r.l. (2019), SCS Computers S.r.l. (2020), IASI S.r.l. (2021), I-Tel S.r.l. (2022), and Energenius S.r.l. (2022).

This press release is available at <u>www.emarketstorage.com</u> and <u>www.mapsgroup.it.</u> CONTACTS

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