

PRESS RELEASE

INTESA SANPAOLO PROVIDES FINANCING OF €40 MILLION WITH A GREEN SACE GUARANTEE TO SACMI FOR CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROJECTS

- **Richard Zatta (Global Corporate Head of Intesa Sanpaolo's IMI CIB Division):** *“This deal with SACMI confirms Intesa Sanpaolo’s commitment to redefining business strategies with a focus on innovation and sustainability. It marks the completion of yet another transaction for the Bank as part of its credit facility for the Circular Economy”.*
- **Paolo Mongardi (Chairman of SACMI):** *“This financing is part of and strengthens the Group’s specific strategy of continuously improving the environmental thrust of its global offer to meet demand that is increasingly sensitive to these issues. Moreover, it confirms the company’s deep commitment to sustainability and ESG issues”.*
- **Simonetta Acri (Chief Mid Market Officer of SACE):** *“In line with the objectives of the Italian Green New Deal, SACE is delighted to continue supporting a high-calibre group like SACMI, international leader in the industrial plant engineering sector, which has centred its strategy around the circular economy and environmental sustainability, essential drivers for the recovery of the local and national economy”.*

Milan/Imola, 7 September 2021 – **Intesa Sanpaolo** has signed an agreement with **SACMI**, an international group and global leader in plant and machinery for ceramics, packaging, food & beverages, technologies and advanced materials, to provide financing of **€40 million** that will enable SACMI to achieve specific Research & Development targets geared towards improving the environmental sustainability of ceramic and rigid packaging production processes in accordance with the tenets of a circular economy. The financing is backed by a **SACE Green Guarantee** covering 80% of the financed amount.

The financing consists of an eight-year credit facility with a pricing mechanism linked to the achievement of specific circular economy targets. These targets include developing new technologies and engineering solutions that make production processes increasingly circular and efficient by improving energy consumption, the recovery of waste, the use of compostable materials and the containment of polluting emissions.

*“This financing,” emphasised **Paolo Mongardi, SACMI Chairman**, “is part of and strengthens the Group’s specific strategy of continuously improving the environmental thrust of its global offer to meet demand that is increasingly sensitive to these issues. Moreover, it confirms the company’s deep commitment to sustainability and ESG issues”.*

The transaction was handled by Intesa Sanpaolo’s **IMI Corporate & Investment Banking Division**, led by **Mauro Micillo**, with the support of the Circular Economy Team of **Intesa Sanpaolo Innovation Center**, the Group’s innovation company managed by Maurizio Montagnese.

Thanks to their positive impact in terms of mitigating climate change, the financed projects meet the objectives of the Green New Deal, the plan for a modern, circular, sustainable and resilient Europe. In this context, SACE, an institution specialised in supporting the development of Italian businesses, plays a key role in implementing the Green New Deal in Italy. Since the “Simplification” Decree-Law (76/2020) went into force last July, SACE, under the leadership of CEO Pierfrancesco Latini, can now issue “green guarantees” for domestic projects that encourage the transition to an economy with a lower environmental impact, integrate production cycles with low-emission technologies for the production of sustainable goods and services and promote initiatives aimed at developing new and greener modes of transport.

*“The circular economy is vital for economic development that generates a positive environmental and social impact,” noted **Richard Zatta, Global Corporate Head of Intesa Sanpaolo’s IMI Corporate & Investment Banking Division**. “This deal with SACMI confirms Intesa Sanpaolo’s commitment to redefining business strategies with a focus on innovation and sustainability, ensuring financial support for investments that contribute to redesigning the industrial system. It marks the completion of yet another transaction for the Bank as part of its credit facility for the Circular Economy”.*

*“This transaction is another step in our ongoing commitment to championing the country’s environmental transition,” remarked **Simonetta Acri, SACE’s Chief Mid Market Officer**. “In line with the objectives of the Italian Green New Deal, SACE is delighted to continue supporting a high-calibre group like SACMI, international leader in the industrial plant engineering sector, which has centred its strategy around the circular economy and environmental sustainability, essential drivers for the recovery of the local and national economy. This transaction deepens SACE’s longstanding relationship with the SACMI Group, one that has grown stronger over time, driving growth on foreign markets and helping to find the most competitive solutions for structured finance needs, and this green guarantee further confirms their important partnership.”*

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Intesa Sanpaolo

Intesa Sanpaolo is the leading Bank in Italy and one of the soundest and most profitable banks in Europe. It offers commercial, corporate investment banking, asset management and insurance services. The Intesa Sanpaolo Group has approximately 13.5 million customers in Italy who are assisted through both digital and traditional channels and 7.2 million customers abroad with subsidiaries operating in commercial banking in 12 countries in Central Eastern Europe and Middle Eastern and North African areas and an international network of specialists in support of corporate customers across 25 countries. Intesa Sanpaolo is recognized as one of the most sustainable banks in the world. For the Group, creating value means being a driver for growth, for the benefit of both society and the economy. As regards the environment, the Group has set up a 6-billion-euro fund for the circular economy. Intesa Sanpaolo supports major economic inclusion and poverty reduction projects, including an impact fund of 1.5 billion euro for loans available to social groups who struggle to access credit. Intesa Sanpaolo has a high level of involvement in cultural initiatives, organised by the Bank or in collaboration with other entities in Italy and further afield. These include permanent and temporary exhibitions showcasing the Bank's impressive artistic heritage at the Gallerie d'Italia, the Group's museums located in Milan, Naples, Vicenza and soon Turin.

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SACMI

Founded in 1919 in Imola, Italy, SACMI is a leading international group in the industrial plant engineering sector.

With 4,600 employees and 80 production, distribution and service companies in 27 countries around the world, the company designs and markets machinery and complete plants for Ceramics (Tiles, Sanitaryware and Tableware), Rigid Packaging Technologies, Beverage, advanced Technologies and Materials, Packaging and Chocolate processing.

The Group's mission revolves around continuous innovation and a sharp focus on the social and environmental sustainability of the business. Through its internal departments and in collaboration with Universities, the Group conducts intense research and training in new technologies, machinery, plants and materials with a low environmental impact.

In addition to its strong focus on internationalisation – foreign markets account for 86% of sales volumes – the company has managed to keep its R&D in Italy, with the parent company in Imola alone employing 300 engineers and highly specialised personnel for Research and Development.

Safe and decent work conditions, environmental protection and social ethics are key factors in the company's day-to-day business in order to offer customers and partners increasingly new and improved products. Over the past 3 years, SACMI has invested nearly €150 million in R&D and almost €1 million in safety and environmental training for its employees. In the same period, SACMI has donated over €2 million to the community in support of charitable projects, particularly in health and education.

SACE

SACE is the Italian financial insurance company specialised in supporting the growth and development of businesses and the national economy through a wide range of tools and solutions to improve competitiveness in Italy and worldwide. For over forty years, SACE has been the partner of reference for Italian companies exporting to and expanding in foreign markets. SACE also cooperates with the banking system, providing financial guarantees to facilitate companies' access to credit; this role has been reinforced by the extraordinary measures introduced by the so-called Liquidity Decree and by Simplifications Decree. With a portfolio of insured transactions and guaranteed investments for 156 billion euros, SACE serves over 26 thousand companies, especially SMEs, supporting their growth in Italy and in around 200 foreign markets, with a diversified range of insurance and financial products and services.