

PRESS RELEASE

**INTESA SANPAOLO SUPPORTS AQUAFIL CIRCULAR ECONOMY
PROJECTS WITH A LOAN
OF 30 MILLION EUROS**

- ***Giulio Bonazzi, Chairman and CEO of Aquafil: “The commitment of the banking and lending sector to environmental sustainability and green economy is great news for businesses and the Country. This will provide a systemic impetus and achieve an acceleration toward circular business models.”***
- ***Michele Sorrentino (Head of Italy Network of Intesa Sanpaolo's IMI CIB Division): “This transaction once again demonstrates how companies in the manufacturing sector can address environmental challenges in innovative ways. In order to boost the Circular and Green Economy, Intesa Sanpaolo has long been supporting companies aiming to improve their sustainability profile with a credit facility dedicated to the Circular Economy which, since its launch, has financed projects amounting to €5.7 billion”.***

Milan/Arco (TN), January 11, 2022 - Intesa Sanpaolo and Aquafil, one of the leading nylon producers in Italy and worldwide, listed on the Euronext STAR segment of Borsa Italiana, have signed a financing agreement for an amount of €30 million aimed at achieving specific goals related to the circular economy.

The transaction consists of a 6-year floating rate credit line with a *pricing* mechanism linked to the achievement of specific sustainability and circular economy targets. These goals include a significant improvement in the environmental impact through a reduction in water consumption and in waste materials through the recovery and reuse of waste.

The financing is part of the Aquafil Group's strategy, which for years has made sustainability and circular economy key elements of its development.

The transaction was concluded by **Intesa Sanpaolo's IMI Corporate & Investment Banking Division**, led by **Mauro Micillo** with the support of the Circular Economy Desk of **Intesa Sanpaolo Innovation Centre**, a company dedicated to innovation and to the spread of circular economy.

*“Aquafil embodies manufacturing excellence nationally and internationally; it has been able to embrace issues related to sustainability for a long time, making it a linchpin of its business and its development - so **Michele Sorrentino, Head of Italy Network of Intesa Sanpaolo's IMI Corporate & Investment Banking Division.** This transaction once again demonstrates how companies in the industry can address environmental challenges in innovative ways. In order to boost the Circular and Green Economy, Intesa Sanpaolo has long been supporting companies aiming to improve their sustainability profile with a credit facility dedicated to the Circular Economy which, since its launch, has financed projects amounting to €5.7 billion (as at 30 September 2021)”.*

*“We are happy that Intesa Sanpaolo has identified us as an economic entity to support in the efforts we have been making for years to make the supply chain in which we operate circular, both upstream and downstream” commented **Giulio Bonazzi, Chairman and CEO of Aquafil.***

Press information

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About Intesa Sanpaolo

Intesa Sanpaolo is a wealth management & protection company, Italy's leading bank and one of the most solid and profitable bank groups in Europe. It offers commercial, corporate investment banking, private banking, asset management and insurance services. The Intesa Sanpaolo Group has approximately 13.5 million customers in Italy and 7.1 million customers abroad through commercial banking subsidiaries in 12 countries in Central-Eastern Europe and Middle East and North Africa as well an international network to support corporate customers across 25 countries. Intesa Sanpaolo is recognized as one of the most sustainable banks in the world and is committed to becoming a reference model in terms of sustainability and social and cultural responsibility. Intesa Sanpaolo supports major economic inclusion and poverty reduction projects, including a €1.5 billion impactfund for loans to social groups who struggle to access credit. The Group has a €6 billion fund dedicated to the circular economy. The Group is also deeply involved in cultural initiatives in Italy and further afield, with the aim of preserving, promoting and sharing Italy's historical and artistic heritage, also thanks to permanent and temporary exhibitions hosted at the Gallerie d'Italia, Intesa Sanpaolo's museums located in Milan, Naples, Vicenza and, soon, Turin.

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Aquafil

Founded in 1965, Aquafil is one of the leading nylon producers in Italy and worldwide. The Group is present in seven nations and in three different continents, employing more than 2,650 people in 19 production facilities located in Italy, Scotland, Slovenia, Croatia, the United States, Thailand and China.

Aquafil is a pioneer in the circular economy, thanks also to the ECONYL® regeneration system, an innovative and sustainable system able to create new products from waste, creating an infinite cycle. Nylon waste is collected from locations around the world and includes industrial waste, as well as products - such as fishing nets and carpets - that have reached the end of their useful life. These waste materials are treated in order to obtain a raw material with the same chemical and performance characteristics as those derived from fossil sources. Polymers produced from ECONYL® caprolactam are distributed to the Group's production facilities, where they are processed into carpet and apparel yarn.