

## COMUNICATO STAMPA

### **INTESA SANPAOLO: AGREEMENT WITH IBM FOR AN INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE**

- **Intesa Sanpaolo complements its hybrid cloud approach with IBM technologies. The higher performance and lower power consumption of IBM z16™ platform will help achieve the sustainability goals set out in Intesa Sanpaolo's 2022-2025 business plan.**
- **Massimo Proverbio: “The new IBM technology will help make more flexible, performant and sustainable the evolution of the Group's infrastructure.”**
- **Marco Utili: “We believe that the collaboration with Intesa Sanpaolo represents a unique opportunity to bring sustainability and technological innovation to the center of the agenda of the Italian and European financial sector”.**

Milan, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – **Intesa Sanpaolo**, Italy's largest banking group (ISP.MI), has announced an agreement with **IBM** (NYSE: IBM) to adopt innovative technology infrastructures that will support strategic growth as the bank launches a new digital banking service. The collaboration will help the bank to continue evolving IT security while accelerating performance and reducing IT energy consumption.

Consumer demand for digital services and increasingly stringent security, compliance and sustainability regulations are making it necessary for banks to constantly review and upgrade technology infrastructures.

**Intesa Sanpaolo** has responded with a business plan that includes major investments in IT infrastructure optimization, technological modernization, and the introduction of leading cyber-security techniques. This includes the creation of a new digital bank **Isybank**, which has the goal of providing customers with the highest levels of performance, efficiency, and security in digital services. The plan also calls for the adoption of increasingly stringent ESG policies, with Intesa Sanpaolo positioning itself as an industry leader in terms of social impact, climate commitment, and the ambition to achieve zero net emissions by 2030.

Through the agreement and the collaboration with **IBM**, **Intesa Sanpaolo** will be able to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by the Hybrid Cloud, and Artificial Intelligence which will enable an open, flexible, and secure digitization while at the same time contribute to a significant reduction in energy consumption and its related environmental impact. In particular, the modernization of the bank's

technology environment with the IBM z16 - designed with energy efficiency in mind to achieve greater performance with less energy used – will enable **Intesa Sanpaolo** to reduce its infrastructure energy consumption related to the z16 of around 20% and to contribute towards limiting its environmental impact.

**Intesa Sanpaolo** is relying on **IBM's** efficient and secure technologies, while continuing its adoption of the Red Hat OpenShift hybrid multi-cloud platform, industry-leading open-source clouds, consistent with the Group's hybrid cloud model. The availability of application and microservices models hosted within Red Hat OpenShift technology on the IBM z16 will enrich the Group's range of transformational approaches.

The collaboration between **Intesa Sanpaolo and IBM** will also form the basis for further developments, including preparation to help protect sensitive data and infrastructure from possible cyberattacks in a post-quantum future. As quantum computers become increasingly powerful, it is important that companies in highly regulated industries, such as the banking sector, take measures to protect their data from future cryptographically relevant quantum computers that may be able to decrypt today's standard security protocols.

**IBM** has been researching and developing quantum-safe technology that enables the protection of sensitive data. **Intesa Sanpaolo** will protect its data with the IBM z16's quantum-safe cryptography capabilities which provide a foundation for the bank to start future-proofing its systems, applications, and data, now.

*“We have started a journey to digitize our processes and customer services by leveraging the most innovative technologies and an ecosystem of national and international players” – says **Massimo Enrico Proverbio, Chief IT Digital & Innovation Officer di Intesa Sanpaolo.** “This includes the evolution of the Group's infrastructure, which the new IBM technology will help make more flexible, performant and sustainable.”*

*“We are excited to work with Intesa Sanpaolo to promote the development of innovative, secure and more sustainable digital solutions also through the adoption of IBM z16 technology in the Group's hybrid cloud model”, declares **Marco Utili, Managing Director Intesa Sanpaolo Group, IBM Technology Italy,** “We believe that this collaboration represents a unique opportunity to bring sustainability and technological innovation to the center of the agenda of the Italian and European financial sector”.*

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#### **About Intesa Sanpaolo**

Intesa Sanpaolo is the largest banking group in Italy - a point of reference for households, businesses, and the real economy - with a significant international presence. Intesa Sanpaolo's distinctive business model establishes it a European leader in Wealth Management, Protection & Advisory and characterizes its strong digital and fintech orientation. An efficient and resilient bank is group leader of product factories in asset management and insurance. The strong commitment to ESG includes €115 billion in impact financing by 2025, targeting community and green

transition, and contributions of €500 million to support people in need, positioning Intesa Sanpaolo as a world leader in social impact. Intesa Sanpaolo has made Net Zero commitments for its emissions by 2030 and by 2050 for its loan and investment portfolios, asset management, and insurance business. A staunch supporter of Italian culture, it has developed a museum network, the Gallerie d'Italia, an exhibition venue for the bank's artistic heritage and art projects of recognized value.

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#### **About IBM**

IBM is a global leader in hybrid cloud, AI and business services and works with organizations in more than 175 countries helping them capitalize on their data insights, streamline business processes, reduce costs and gain a competitive advantage in their industry sectors. Nearly 3,800 government agencies and companies operating in critical infrastructure-such as those in financial services, telecommunications and healthcare-rely on IBM's hybrid cloud platform and Red Hat OpenShift to achieve digital transformation quickly, efficiently, and securely. IBM's innovations in AI, quantum computing, industry sector-specific cloud solutions and in services are offered with open and flexible options. All of this is supported by IBM's well-known commitment to transparency, accountability, inclusiveness, and service. For more information, please visit [www.ibm.com](https://www.ibm.com).

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