

Tiscali Italia S.p.A. selected by the European Commission for the development of Generative Artificial Intelligence services

Cagliari, Dec. 05, 2023 - Tiscali Italia S.p.A., a telecommunications operator among the first in the ultrabroadband access segment and the main operating company of the Tessellis Group, has been selected as part of the IPCEI-CIS European Project and will be a key player in the development of Multimodal Generative Artificial Intelligence with its *Villanova* Project.

IPCEIs-an acronym for *Important Projects of Common* European Interest-are strategic transnational industrial collaboration projects designed to aggregate knowledge, skills, financial resources and economic actors from across the European Union. The goal of such projects is to achieve important results in terms of technological and manufacturing innovation, addressing complex challenges, in order to contribute to the sustainable growth and competitiveness of the national and European economy as well as to the digital and *green* transition.

IPCEI CIS, the first IPCEI in cloud and edge computing, is about developing Europe's first freely accessible, interoperable data processing ecosystem, the cloud-to-edge multi-provider continuum. The goal is to promote the creation of an interconnected infrastructure that can synergistically integrate vendors and technologies in building a scalable and efficient ecosystem for data processing, management and use. The innovations produced by IPCEI CIS will open up new possibilities for European businesses and citizens, advancing the digital and green transition in Europe. Specifically, the Commission has authorized Italy to provide a maximum value of state aid to the five participating Italian companies of about 409 million euros, out of a total of more than 1.2 billion at the European level.

Tiscali's Villanova Project has been selected by the European Commission to contribute to the IPCEI-CIS initiative through the establishment of a state-of-the-art laboratory in Multimodal Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI).

Villanova aims to help overcome the current technological and language barriers that prevent the use of generative artificial intelligence on a large scale through the development, in compliance with European privacy regulations, of large language models (LLMs) specific to each European language.

The Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) models, components and technologies implemented in the Villanova Project will be able to enable the dynamic creation of high-quality text and multimedia content in real time. In addition, Villanova aims to provide advanced tools for the development of GenAI Composable Applications, i.e., advanced applications built through reusable software components based on GenAI. This approach will simplify the development of state-of-the-art solutions and democratize access to the most advanced artificial intelligence technologies by making them usable even by small businesses with limited resources.

Finally, Villanova, by adopting the principles of open-source, intends to build a broad ecosystem of developers, companies and institutions, promoting the training of future experts and scientists in areas crucial to the country's technological and social future.

Tiscali once again demonstrates that it is a leading player in technological evolution and innovation, on a path that is perfectly consistent with the one outlined in its Industrial Plan, which calls for the implementation of a series of new development models for the profitable evolution of its business. In this case, the promotion of the use of Multimodal Generative Artificial Intelligence is an area of enormous importance and topicality for redefining our future.

About Tessellis

Tessellis S.p.A. (Italian Stock Exchange. Milan: TSL) is the holding company of the Group born from the merger between Linkem Retail and Tiscali S.p.A. It includes among its business areas that of Tiscali Italia S.p.A., a national operator among the first in the ultra-broadband segment (FWA - Fixed Wireless Access and FTTH - Fiber To The Home), the portal www.tiscali.it, one of the main Italian news portals, with about 8 million visitors per month to its credit, as well as the advertising concessionaire Veesible s.r.l.

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