

- INDUSTRY 4.0 FUND -

Press Release

THE INDUSTRY 4.0 FUND IS BORN **The new fund dedicated to digital SME transformations** **was presented today in Rome**

28 November 2018

INDUSTRY 4.0 FUND was presented today in Rome. The announcement of the new Fund was made in the presence of the major pension and retirement funds on the occasion of the *End of Year Convention*, the customary rendezvous promoted by Itinerari Previdenziali.

The Fund is the first specialized in the technological evolution of companies, in particular in the *digital transformation* of SMEs.

The mission of the Fund is to support and enhance the companies, providing the necessary capital for development, and to support the management by launching business initiatives aimed at accelerating its growth, both internal and external.

INDUSTRY 4.0 promotes strategic investments in new business models, pursued through investments in digital technologies such as collaborative and interconnected robots, 3D printing, internet of things, sharing of data and information along the supply chain with suppliers and customers, digital marketing, and cyber security. The intent is to increase the productivity and competitiveness of companies on a global scale.

To achieve these objectives, the Fund employs a highly specialized management team: Roberto Crapelli, former CEO and President of Roland Berger Italy with over 20 years of experience in strategic consulting and more recently in Industry 4.0 projects in Italy and Germany, and the professional skills of Alessandro Binello, Walter Ricciotti, and Pietro Paparoni, who have been working in the private equity market for over 15 years, constantly supported by a team of analysts.

Strategic choices will also be made with the support of a highly qualified Senior Advisory Board, composed of Roland Berger, Founder of Roland Berger Strategy Consultants, Lodovico Camozzi, President of Camozzi Group, Piero Ferrari, Vice President of Ferrari Spa, Valerio De Molli, CEO of The European House of Ambrosetti, and Carlo Pelanda, Vice President of Q GROUP.

Roberto Crapelli, Managing Partner of INDUSTRY 4.0 FUND, said:

"After many years spent providing strategic consulting to companies, I realized and repeatedly stressed to the newspapers and before that to my clients how the Italian system is characterized by an "industrial spread" better than the German one. To maintain and increase this competitive advantage, investments in Industry 4.0 technologies will have to be promoted, so as to develop positions of advantage along the entire value chain, disintermediate competitors, suppliers and customers, thus adopting "new jobs" (business models). Access to the capital market (not just the stock exchange) thus becomes key, as banks cannot finance the medium to long term to the extent required by the system. This is why I was one of the promoters of the INDUSTRY 4.0 FUND project".

Industry 4.0 Fund has a collection target of 300 million euro. Over half of the harvest comes from social security institutions, funds of funds, banks and family offices, both Italian and foreign. Management also invests directly in the fund, thus creating a complete alignment between internal and investor interests.

Currently the team is focused on the analysis of target companies, which could be part of the deal: any established leader in its own reference market and with a strong predisposition to internationalization.

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