



Verona, 19Th November 2003

Joint venture between CAD IT and Microsoft to develop Business Intelligence solutions for financial markets

The two companies announce their intention to supply banks and financial companies with innovative and integrated software platforms based on Microsoft .NET technology

-----**Flash**-----

Respect for standards defined by the recent Basel II normative – which lays down guide lines for operational risk, credit and market management to which banking institutions should conform by June 2004 – requires suitable technological infrastructure. The agreement sealed between CAD IT and Microsoft foresees the development of software solutions based on Microsoft .NET platforms, which will guarantee the banks a simpler sharing and integration of data as well as greater information security.

CAD IT, leader in the production of information systems for the financial sector, and Microsoft have announced a partnership aimed at supplying banking institutions with advanced **Business Intelligence** instruments based on **Microsoft .NET** technology. The solutions developed are able to guarantee significant advantages in terms of data management and security as well as a considerable reduction in costs linked to IT investment.

This partnership with Microsoft will allow CAD IT products to be integrated with solutions belonging to Microsoft's **Windows Server System** family, which includes Windows Server 2003, SQL Server and SharePoint Portal Server.

The partnership, initially aimed at the Italian market, foresees a progressive internationalisation of the offer. The two companies will be working together to share marketing initiatives and to implement an exchange of skills concerning reciprocal solutions with the aim of offering the financial market a highly integrated package with a high added value.

“The banking sector will experience an important renewal in methodology and business processes over the next few months, which has been made necessary by the standards laid down by the Basel II norm, which will also see a change in

information and technology infrastructures”, said Pierpaolo Taliento, Director of Enterprise & Partner Group of Microsoft Italia. “Collaboration with partners like CAD IT, a technological player of reference for Italian banking institutions, allows us to play a leading role in supporting banks during this delicate period of transition. We are sure that CAD IT’s skill and know-how in this specific sector, and the reliability and flexibility of Microsoft technology, together will be able to offer solutions to meet the new market needs”.

Giuseppe Dal Cortivo, President of CAD IT, said, “The evolution of the financial market requires a continually more analytical and punctual approach to information analysis related to its own business. This scene, together with the complexity of the terms dealt with in the Basel II norm, require the flexibility and reliability of the instruments available with the Microsoft platform. This professional and technological union, together with CAD IT’s know-how in the financial market will allow us to offer the right solutions to the new requirements of the Basel II norm”. He then added, “collaboration with a partner of worldwide fame like Microsoft is part of CAD IT Group’s expansion strategy aimed at widening national and international business.”

* * *

Microsoft

*Founded in 1975, Microsoft is world leader in software, services and Internet technology for the **management** of personal and company information. It offers a complete range of products and services so that everyone can improve, thanks to the software, their company results – at any time, in any place and with any system.*

All information on Microsoft is available on the web site <http://www.microsoft.com/italy/> or through the e-mail address infoita@microsoft.com

The CAD ITGroup

The CAD IT Group has developed and distributed information systems for the banking sector and small and medium sized companies for over 20 years. CAD IT’s offers include standard and personalised applicative packages, software maintenance, updating, consultancy and training.

CAD IT is leader in the Italian software market for the banking sector with its products adopted by 50% of Italian banking outlets.

These references are for the Press only

Microsoft
Paola Andreozzi
Public Relations
Tel 02/70392059
www.microsoft.com/italy/stampa
e-mail msstampa@microsoft.com

Hill & Knowlton
Laura Galbiati
e-mail lgalbiati@hillandknowlton.com
Marco Innocenti
e-mail minnocenti@hillandknowlton.com
Tel. 02/319141

CAD IT Spa
Paolo Dal Cortivo
Tel. +39 045 8211 236
Investor@cadit.it
www.cadit.it

Mirella Villa Comunicazione S.r.l.
Francesca Baldini, Serena Battiloro
Tel +39 02 499 85 327- 365
francesca.baldini@villacomunicazione.it
serena.battiloro@villacomunicazione.it

This reference is for Microsoft Clients
Microsoft

Servizio Clienti
Tel 02/70398398
e-mail infoita@microsoft.com