

## ***BANCA LEONARDO OPENS IN BOLOGNA***

Milan- 15th of July

Banca Leonardo is continuing with its strategy of territorial development and is in the process of opening a new office in Bologna.

The new headquarters, based in via dei Poeti, 8, will be managed by Gianluca Gandolfi, 45 years old from Bologna, with a vast experience in financial activities, having achieved professional and management roles in the banking industry including Cassa di Risparmio di Modena, Banco S. Gimignano e S. Prospero and Meliorbanca.

This new opening is part of the development plan created by the Group in order to select the best professionals and innovative solutions, within Italy and main European countries. The aim of the project is to provide an influential and authoritative answer to the increasing demand in private and public enterprise investment services.

The Bologna office now joins the other offices based in Milan, Rome and Turin (opened last November), therefore extending coverage of Italy's main cities.

Banca Leonardo, which boasts a complete service for companies (financial advisory and private equity), has recently extended its assistance in creating a trustee service, provided by GBL Fiduciaria.

“Bologna is an important stage in our development plan” remarks Paolo Langè, director of Banca Leonardo's wealth management activities. “Bologna has a positive energy in creating wealth and it also has a traditional attention to quality: this will allow us to offer the services which characterise Banca Leonardo”.

Banca Leonardo Group was purchased and capitalised in April 2006, by a group of European investors lead by Gerardo Braggiotti and including CNP SA, Eurazeo SA, Gruppo IFIL, Gruppo Fondiaria-Sai, Torreal SA, Allianz AG and Gruppo Benetton. The group's strategy focuses on three principal areas of business: investment banking and corporate finance; private equity; wealth management. Gruppo Banca Leonardo also operates within the brokerage business, with the advantage of having its own equity-research team, and providing treasury and capital markets transactions.

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