# CENTRAL BANK OF LITHUANIA SELECTS SIA
# TO ACCESS INSTANT PAYMENTS

## *Thanks to the network infrastructure SIAnet, Lithuanian banks joined RT1, the EBA Clearing's pan-European payment platform*

*Milan, 11 January 2018* – The **Bank of Lithuania,** the Central Bank of the country**,** has selected **SIA** to access **RT1, the pan-European instant payments infrastructure** that is **operative as of 21 November 2017**. Thanks to **SIAnet**, the fiber optic network with high speed and low latency stretching over 170,000 kilometers, the Bank of Lithuania was **one of the early users to join EBA Clearing's system**.

Through the Central Bank's connection, **Lithuanian banks can access the RT1 infrastructure** allowing **the country system to execute instant payments up to 15,000 euros in less than 10 seconds, 24/7, all year long**.

The network infrastructure SIAnet is specially designed to meet the specific requirements of instant payments in terms of **security**, **reliability**, **ease of integration** with any application environment and **compliance with SEPA's Instant Credit Transfer (SCT Inst) scheme** created by the European Payments Council.

*"We are particularly proud to have reached this significant agreement with Bank of Lithuania allowing the country system to take part from the beginning in the instant payments revolution. It's another remarkable success at international level that highlights SIA's technological capabilities leveraging its innovative network solution,"* commented **Andrea Galeazzi, Network Services Director of SIA.**

*'Promotion and implementation of payment innovations that bring benefits to both consumers and businesses is one of the strategic directions of the Bank of Lithuania. Joining the upgraded Bank of Lithuania payment system CENTROlink, payment service providers could be one of the first in Europe to offer their clients instant payments. We see great interest in our system and the possibilities it offers'* said **Marius Jurgilas, Member of the Board of the Bank of Lithuania**.

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**SIA** is European leader in the design, creation and management of technology infrastructures and services for Financial Institutions, Central Banks, Corporates and the Public Sector, in the areas of payments, cards, network services and capital markets. SIA Group provides its services in 46 countries, and also operates through its subsidiaries in Austria, Germany, Romania, Hungary and South Africa. The company also has branches in Belgium and the Netherlands, and representation offices in the UK and Poland.

In 2016, SIA managed 12.2 billion clearing transactions, 4.3 billion card transactions, 2.8 billion payments, 47.4 billion financial transactions and carried 654.3 terabytes of data on the network.

The Group is made up of eight companies: the parent **SIA**, the Italian companies **Emmecom** (innovative network applications), **P4cards** (card processing), **Pi4Pay** (advanced collection and payment services), and **Ubiq** (innovative technology solutions for marketing), **Perago** in South Africa, **PforCards** in Austria and **SIA Central Europe** in Hungary. The Group, which currently has over 2,000 employees, closed 2016 with revenues of €468.2 million.

For more information: [www.sia.eu](www.sia.eu)

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