



DIGITAL PA: THE MUNICIPALITY OF BARI AND SIA START UP THE FIRST BLOCKCHAIN PROJECT IN ITALY TO MANAGE SURETIES

***This is the first experiment in the public sector
to certify the authenticity and issuing of surety policies
through the use of smart contracts***

***SIA's blockchain infrastructure will allow the Municipality of Bari to digitize
in total security the administrative processes related to sureties and
achieve greater efficiency, eliminating manual error and preventing fraud***

Bari and Milan, 7 February 2019 – The **Municipality of Bari** has started up in collaboration with SIA – the leading European hi-tech company in the payment services and infrastructures sector - **a project based on blockchain technology that aims to digitize the process of managing surety policies.**

This is the **first experiment in Italy of use of Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) relating to sureties in the public sector** that will allow the Municipality of Bari to dematerialize the issuance process by banks, financial intermediaries, and insurance companies and certify the sureties unequivocally and irrevocably.

This innovative project will contribute, among other things, to reducing the processing times of the various phases, eliminating any manual errors and also preventing possible fraud by unauthorized parties related to the presentation of false documents.

The experiment will make use of the **SIACHAIN technology infrastructure designed and implemented by SIA** to support the development and implementation, in a secure and protected manner, of innovative applications based on blockchain, such as for example **smart contracts** able to verify agreements and contracts automatically.

"The project we have undertaken in collaboration with SIA will allow us to implement policies on the development of new technologies with significant progress in digitization and in the belief that, by increasing our experience in the use of DLT, we can support the work of PA bodies while triggering unprecedented technical and employment scenarios. We want this initiative to develop and generate value, both in the public and private sectors, and drive other public administration bodies to start up similar projects. Bari has already taken up the challenge of innovation", commented **Antonio Decaro, Mayor of Bari.**

"The launch of the blockchain project with the Municipality of Bari represents a milestone in the field of digital PA in Italy as it shows that local authorities have the potential to improve and simplify complex administrative procedures by investing in new technologies. SIA supports the public sector in this path of innovation with the conception and development of initiatives, in protected mode, which are part of a broader digitization program of the country. We strongly believe that the SIACHAIN infrastructure, thanks to its high performance and safety features, offers significant benefits", stated **Nicola Cordone, CEO of SIA.**



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 over 50 countries, and also operates through its subsidiaries in Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and South Africa. The company also has branches in Belgium and the Netherlands, and representation offices in the UK and Poland.

In 2017, SIA managed 13.1 billion clearing transactions, 6.1 billion card transactions, 3.3 billion payments, 56.2 billion financial transactions and carried 784 terabytes of data on the network.

The Group, which currently has over 3,400 employees, closed 2017 with revenues of €567.2 million.

For more information: www.sia.eu/en

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