



PSD2: IREN CHOOSES SIA FOR THE LAUNCH OF NEW OPEN BANKING SERVICES

The "Payment Initiation Service" has been implemented thanks to SIA's technology platform and to the new European Directive on payments services

Customers of the multi-utility can pay their electricity and gas bills directly from the web platform or the "IrenYou" app by connecting to their internet banking site

Milan and Reggio Emilia, 16 September 2020 – Iren, an Italian multi-utility operating in the electricity, gas and services sectors, has chosen SIA, a leading European hi-tech company in the payment services and infrastructures sector, controlled by CDP Equity, for the launch of advanced payment services thanks to the innovations introduced by the PSD2 Directive which has opened up the market also to corporates.

Iren offers the new Payment Initiation (PIS) service through SIA's digital Open Banking platform. The service allows Iren's customers to pay their electricity and gas bills online in an easy, fast and secure manner directly from the web platform or the 'IrenYou' app by connecting to their Internet Banking site.

SIA's Open Banking Platform in fact makes available a series of functions to create and integrate innovative services and applications while minimizing development costs, technology investments, organizational impacts and accelerating time-to-market, as well as guaranteeing compliance with regulations. SIA also supports companies in the design and implementation of use cases best suited to their business strategies and objectives.

SIA accompanied Iren throughout the digital transformation process that allowed this multi-utility company to obtain authorization from the Bank of Italy to operate as a Payment Institution and therefore to propose itself as an innovative organization capable of diversifying its offer in the sector and providing its customers with advanced services thus improving the user experience.

In this way, Iren has responded to the extraordinary dynamism that has been characterizing the payments sector in recent years, with the increasing use of digital services via smartphones, tablets and wearable devices.

"Electronic payments will be an extraordinary enabler for Iren's nationwide expansion with the aim of combining technological evolution and customer orientation. The new IrenPay service - provided through SIA's digital Open Banking platform - will be an important tool to offer our customers increasingly digital and personalized services", stated Gianluca Bufo, CEO of Iren Mercato.

"The decision of a major multi-utility company such as Iren to trust the technology and expertise of our staff is further confirmation of SIA's ability to accompany the digital transformation of banks, corporates and fintechs, through the development of particularly innovative initiatives, and thus always promoting increased use of electronic payments. Open Banking is among the main strategic initiatives on which we have been



*focusing with investments in platforms and with the creation of new services and applications for all the players involved in the new ecosystem enabled by PSD2", commented **Nicola Cordone, CEO of SIA.***

IREN is one of the largest and most dynamic multiutility companies on the Italian scene and operates in the sectors of electricity, thermal energy for district heating and gas, and in the management of integrated water services, environmental services and technological services. It is the first operator in Italy in the district heating sector for the volume heated, third in the water services sector for the number of cubic metres managed and in the environmental services sector for the quantity of waste treated, fifth in the gas sector for the amount of gas sold to end customers and fifth in the electricity sector for the amount of electricity sold. The IREN Group – Reggio Emilia based – is made up of the industrial holding company IREN S.p.A. and four fully controlled business companies operating in their specific sectors both directly and through companies that they control or in which they hold a share. IREN has a high level of technological know-how, which, combined with its vocation for reliability, innovation and local roots, enable it to ensure high-quality services and to meet the needs of customers and the general public. The Iren Group respects Corporate Social Responsibility, values its human resources and monitors the ethical aspects of its actions, also from an environmental standpoint. In its daily business, IREN also pursues important goals such as sustainable development and environmental protection, the rational use of energy, continuous improvement and efficiency in the services provided, thus contributing to the development of the areas in which it operates.

SIA - a subsidiary of CDP Equity - 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 Card & Merchant Solutions, Digital Payment Solutions and Capital Market & Network Solutions. SIA Group provides its services in 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.

For more information: www.sia.eu/en

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