

PRESS RELEASE

“INTESA SANPAOLO START-UP INITIATIVE: IN LONDON ON 6 OCTOBER AND, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN FRANCE, IN PARIS ON 11 OCTOBER

- **London, 6 Start-Ups from the “Nanotech and Materials” sectors**
- **Paris, 7 Start-Ups from the “ICT and Electronics” sectors**

Milan, 4 October 2011 – The “**Intesa Sanpaolo Start-up Initiative**” **international roadshow** continues on its way, assisting new businesses outside Italian borders and introducing them to the international financial community and any reference investors.

Thursday, 6 October, at the Bank’s London headquarters (90, Queen Street), starting from **9:00 a.m.**, 6 start-ups from the “Nanotech and Materials” sectors will be introduced to 40 potential investors.

After bringing new companies to London, Frankfurt, San Francisco and New York in previous years’ roadshows, on **11 October** the “Intesa Sanpaolo Start Up Initiative” will reach **France for the first time**.

At the **Italian Embassy in Paris** (47, Rue de Varenne) starting from **9:00 a.m.**, 7 start-ups from the “ICT and Electronics” sectors will be presented to approximately 70 potential investors.

The French venue has been organised with the assistance of **AFIC** (the French Private Equity Association) and **France Angels**, the French federation of Business Angels.

The “**Intesa Sanpaolo Start-Up Initiative**”, established in **September 2009** and created and promoted by the Innovation Team of Intesa Sanpaolo Corporate and Investment Banking Division, headed by **Gaetano Micciché**, General Manager of the Banking Group, has involved over **1,000 start-ups** and **early-stage projects** in its activities to date. The aim of the event is to discover highly innovative new businesses, prepare them for the market challenge and give them the opportunity to describe their ideas to potential investors and industrial partners, **bringing the finance world increasingly closer to the technological innovation and research sector**.

For further information:

Intesa Sanpaolo

Media Relations - Corporate and Investment Banking

tel. +39.02.8796.3851 / 3531
stampa@intesanpaolo.com