

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **NEW YORK WELCOMES ITALY'S TOP LISTED COMPANIES: INTESA SANPAOLO LAUNCHES THE FIRST "ITALIAN EQUITY CHAMPIONS"**

- **A strategic bridge between Italian companies and international investors to foster growth and the internationalisation of businesses**
- **Alberto Mancuso, Head of International Network, IMI CIB Division at Intesa Sanpaolo: "With Italian Equity Champions, we aim to promote Italian excellence on global markets, strengthening the connection between Italian corporates and international investors."**

Milan, 22 September 2025 – The first edition of Italian Equity Champions, an investor conference organised by the **IMI Corporate & Investment Banking Division** of **Intesa Sanpaolo**, led by **Mauro Micillo**, took place in New York. The initiative brought a carefully selected group of listed Italian excellence to the US market, creating new opportunities for dialogue with the international financial community.

Following the European editions of the *Italian Stock Market Opportunities Conference* — which involved over 30 listed companies in the continent's main financial hubs — the Division expands and reimagines the project with an event specifically designed for the American market, aimed at reinforcing the connection between Italian enterprises and international capital.

Italian Equity Champions saw the participation of **Azimut Holding, Brembo, CNH, Eni, Piaggio, Pirelli, Sanlorenzo, Technogym, and Technoprobe**, who met with more than **30 institutional investors** representing **25 investment firms**. The strong turnout reflects international investors' interest and confidence in the growth models and resilience of these Italian companies.

**Alberto Mancuso, Head of International Network, IMI Corporate & Investment Banking Division at Intesa Sanpaolo**, stated: "With Italian Equity Champions, we aim to promote Italian excellence on global markets, strengthening the connection between Italian corporates and international investors. The selected 'super-champions' are eurozone companies with highly distinctive features, making them unique within their sectors and well-equipped to navigate complex contexts. This initiative complements and enriches the IMI CIB Division's many activities focused on connecting international capital with Italian businesses."

The event opened with contributions from **Nicola Baiocchi**, Country Manager USA & Americas, IMI CIB Division, and **Stefano Marras**, CEO of Intesa Sanpaolo IMI Securities Corporation. This was followed by an overview of the economic outlook presented by **Luca Mezzomo**, Head of Macroeconomic Analysis, and analysis by **Giampaolo Trasi**, Co-Head of Equity & Credit Research.

According to their analysis, listed companies in 2025 are facing multiple challenges, including geopolitical instability such as ongoing conflicts and political uncertainty in France; macroeconomic concerns, including weaker economic performance and a declining US dollar; and business-related issues stemming from evolving US trade policies. In view of the less favourable US economic scenario, analysts also considered business exposure to the euro area (with particular attention to Germany's infrastructure plans and increased defence spending) and to China (benefiting from ongoing monetary and fiscal stimulus). The Q2 earnings season in Italy exceeded expectations, with around 90% of companies confirming or improving their guidance. With the US–EU tariff dispute largely resolved, investors are refocusing on company fundamentals and earnings prospects for 2025–2026.

Italian Equity Champions was made possible thanks to the collaboration between Intesa Sanpaolo's Equity Research team, IMI Securities Corp., and the New York Branch of the IMI CIB Division.

The Intesa Sanpaolo Group has a long-standing presence in the United States, thanks to the international legacy of Banca Commerciale Italiana, a leader in infrastructure and project finance since the 1980s. **The New York Branch** is part of the IMI CIB Division's International Network and serves as a key hub for corporate and institutional clients throughout the Americas.

In recent years, the Division has supported major international players in high-profile strategic projects, including:

- Project Cider, the largest solar park in the State of New York
- Construction of the largest cruise terminal in the US, in Miami
- Development of New Terminal One at JFK Airport in New York — the largest airport infrastructure investment in the United States
- Financing of SunZia, the largest renewable energy infrastructure in the US, in New Mexico.

These initiatives confirm the Intesa Sanpaolo Group's ability — under the leadership of **CEO Carlo Messina** — to act as a long-term strategic partner for global enterprises while also promoting the international expansion of Italian companies.

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**Intesa Sanpaolo**

Intesa Sanpaolo, with €419 billion in loans and €1.4 trillion in customer financial assets at the end of June 2025, is the largest banking group in Italy, with a significant international presence. It is a European leader in wealth management, with a strong focus on digital and fintech. The Group will provide €115 billion of Impact lending by 2025 to support communities and the green transition, together with a €1.5 billion program (2023-2027) to help people in need. The Bank's network of museums, the Gallerie d'Italia, hosts its owned artistic heritage and cultural projects of recognized value.

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