

National Cloud: Almaviva and Aruba Present Expressions of Interest at the MITD

The two Italian companies have, at the Ministry of Innovation, formalized their intention to be considered for the realization of a National Strategic Hub as part of the digital transformation of the PA. A Cloud Factory as an engine of digital innovation for the Country System

Rome/Bergamo, July 15, 2021 – Almaviva, an Italian leader in digital innovation, and Aruba, the largest Italian cloud provider and leader in data center, web hosting, e-mail, PEC, and domain registration services, have sent the Ministry of Innovation and Digital Transition a joint expression of interest in presenting a proposal for the creation and management, under a public-private partnership, of a National Strategic Hub (PSN).

Included in the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, the National Strategic Hub (PSN) will be a dedicated cloud infrastructure located on the national territory and at the forefront in terms of performance and security, on which to migrate the PA's data and strategic services in order to support the digital transformation process with a "cloud first" strategy. This new infrastructure will be managed by a selected financial operator through the establishment of a public-private partnership initiated by a proposing entity.

From this perspective, Almaviva and Aruba intend to propose an innovative technological and service-oriented solution for the establishment of a National Strategic Hub that serves central public administrations, local health authorities, and the primary local administrations, aimed at keeping the focus on citizens and businesses and in line with the AgID guidelines and the strategic objectives specified in the National Recovery and Resilience Plan.

The experience of these two entirely Italian owned and operated companies when it comes to topics regarding infrastructure, cloud storage, and transformation, is focused on the creation of a "cloud factory" that can act as an engine of innovation and digital revolution for the Country System, while guaranteeing the speed, quality, and security necessary for effective, sustainable, and structural change.

Aruba has enormous experience in the development and management of its own data center infrastructures, with facilities and systems that are in compliance with the sector's highest security standards (Rating 4 ANSI / TIA 942-B) and are located within the national territory. Thanks to this experience, it has also managed to strengthen its expertise in the creation of complex IT projects in the fields of cloud storage, data center, and trust services. The company has constantly evolved in order to remain an innovative partner, setting its objectives along a path of technological innovation and digitalization that aims to support companies and public administrations.

Today Almaviva manages thousands of cloud systems in various forms and has overseen transformation processes from legacy infrastructures to modern architectures which have involved



major mission critical systems. Overall, the company's data centers which host these services are part of the national critical infrastructure.

Almaviva Group

Almaviva, the leading Italian Group in Information & Communications Technology, synonymous with digital innovation, accompanies the country's growth processes by rising to the challenge that enterprises must face in order to remain competitive in the digital age, innovating its business model, organization, corporate culture, and ICT. With a foundation of strong "Made in Italy" skills, Almaviva has created a global network of 45,000 people (10,000 in Italy and 35,000 abroad) and €891 million in turnover in 2020. It operates through 43 offices in Italy and 23 abroad, with a major presence in Brazil as well as in the United States, China, Colombia, Tunisia, Romania, and Brussels, the nerve center of the EU.

Aruba S.p.A.

Aruba S.p.A., founded in 1994, is the largest Italian cloud storage provider and the number one company in Italy for data center, web hosting, e-mail, PEC, and domain registration services. It has enormous experience in the construction and management of data centers, with an active European network at its disposal: in addition to its proprietary data centers (3 already active in Italy and one expected to be active by the end of 2021), it has another in the Czech Republic and additional partner facilities in France, Germany, the UK, and Poland. The company manages over 2.7 million domains, more than 8.6 million e-mail accounts, more than 7.6 million PEC accounts, over 130,000 servers, and a total of 5.4 million clients. It is active in the primary European markets, like France, England, and Germany, and boasts leadership in the Czech and Slovak Republics as well as a consolidated presence in Poland and Hungary. In addition to web hosting services, it also offers dedicated server services, housing and colocation, managed services, digital signature, replacement storage, fiber optic cable, and smart-card production. Since 2011 it has expanded what it offers with cloud storage services and in 2014 became the official register of the prestigious ".cloud" extension. In 2015 it created Aruba.it Racing, Ducati's official team in the Superbike World Championship, and in the same year announced the birth of the Aruba Business division, structured and designed specifically to support business partners in the IT and web market. In 2019 it officially announced the creation of Aruba Enterprise, a division that develops customized IT projects and solutions for companies and public administrations. For more information: <https://www.aruba.it>

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