

AISoftw@re SpA: Acquisition of 23% of ACS SpA

A 3 Billion Lit investment completed through capital increase and share transfer

Milan, 21<sup>th</sup> March 2000

AISoftw@re SpA, an Italian IT company that develops advanced Internet solutions, has acquired 23% of ACS Spa, a leading software house in the fields of: reception and processing of Space surveyed images, digital cartography and ground information systems (GIS), extensive multimedia archives and digital radiophonic production (RAI), Virtual Reality for Defence, Space and cultural entertainment applications.

The operation involves an investment by AISoftw@re of 3 billion Lit (1.549.370,697 Euros), to be achieved by way of an increase in capital of ACS SpA of 2.525.000.000 Lit (1.304.053,67 Euros), equal to 18.5% of the share capital of ACS, and by the acquisition of shares from the present shareholders for an amount of 475.000.000 Lit (245.317,027 Euros), equal to 4.5% of the share capital.

The acquisition of ACS will allow AISoftw@re to integrate its technical expertise and to develop broad band Intranet systems, medical imaging and 3D graphics applications, and to significantly contribute to AISoftw@re's present international presence into areas to be appropriately approached with the widely tried and tested know-how and abilities ACS is endowed with.

*"The entry of AISoftw@re Group into ACS is to be taken as part of a strategy focused on broadening our offer range and technology in the fields of broad band Intranet systems, medical imaging and 3D graphics" - states Francesco Gardin AISoftw@re CEO - "ACS staff, worldwide appreciated, comprises highly qualified personnel, specialised in the development of advanced technology solutions, internationally applied to space agencies programs and to institutions for environmental monitoring and national defence, both in Italy and abroad. Such expertise is to become of strategic importance especially for the completion of new services in creating and broadcasting of information by way of new generation broad band Internets."*

*ACS CEO Gastone Trevisiol declares - "Synergies achieved by way of the AISoftw@re agreement are numerous and perhaps for the first time, allow Italian companies to play a no longer minor role in advanced technology markets, to provide wide band Internet systems and services. Specifically, acceleration will be given to the transfer of technology developed in the fields of Space and Defence applications (extensive archives, multimedia, large volumes of real-time data), relevant to quality improvements in "New Economy" solutions"*

### **AISoftw@re**

Created in 1983, with 10,136 million Euros total revenues in 1998, AISoftw@re SpA is a company specializing in the development of Internet and Intranet highly innovative technological solutions to provide knowledge processing

and data intelligence means to back up decision making behaviours.

The technical skills acquired in the operating of both their own products and distribution onto the related markets guarantee AI Software a leadership position in software solutions offering for financial markets.

AI Software has been quoted on the Easdaq market since 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1999, and it has set out on a development program based on acquisition and entry into software-houses, operating in the development of internet applications, as well as a policy of international expansion.

### **ACS SpA**

Advanced Computer Systems (ACS) is an Italian software house, created in 1979 on the initiative of a group of professionals, who can boast accumulated experience in the following:

- Design and engineering of ground stations for satellite survey data acquisition
- Digital imaging analyses and processing
- Ground Information Systems
- Extensive data archives management
- Virtual Reality

Based on such experience ACS has since the early 80s held a key international position, strengthened by competing for and winning some of the most prestigious international contracts for telesurveyed image processing. In 1994 ACS set up a division dealing with multimedia solutions which is now engaged in developing a system for the complete digital functioning of RAI archives and radiophonic production.

Since the beginning of 1998 ACS has been active in the field of Virtual Reality applications, with specific reference to mission simulations.

For further information:

Dott.ssa Alessia Vanzini

Tel. +39-02-28014.1

Fax. +39-02-2610853

E-Mail: [avanzini@ais.it](mailto:avanzini@ais.it)