

press release

Bologna, 8 March 2023

Hera Group: with ACR, the first national operator in remediation and global service activities is born

With reference to the binding agreement signed on 7 November 2022, the partnership was finalised today between Hera and ACR, one of Italy's leading companies in the sector of contaminated site remediation, industrial waste treatment, plant decommissioning and, more generally, on-site management for leading Italian oil & gas customers. The Hera Group expects this transaction to contribute with approximately 20 million euro to growth in its consolidated Ebitda.

This morning, at the Hera Group's Bologna headquarters, the Group, acting through its subsidiary Herambiente Servizi Industriali (HASI), and A.C.R. di Reggiani Albertino S.p.A.® (ACR), based in Mirandola, in Modena area, finalised a transaction creating the Italy's largest operator in the environmental remediation and industrial waste global service sector, with a nationwide service's coverage.

The closing follows up on the binding agreement signed by the two parties on 7 November 2022, with which Hera acquired 60% of ACR, while some remediation and global service activities previously held by HASI were transferred to the new company. The remaining 40% remains controlled by the Reggiani family. Today also saw the appointment of the Board of Directors of the new ACR, whose CEOs remain the brothers Alberto and Claudio Reggiani.

This partnership with an important operator both locally and on the national scene will enable Hera, already a leader in the waste management sector, to further strengthen its leadership in the field of remediation, industrial waste treatment, decommissioning and oil & gas-related civil works. The contribution to growth in the Hera Group's consolidated Ebitda is expected at approximately 20 million euro.

The details of the partnership

The new ACR has many strengths, being able to provide a highly performing and widespread service, particularly to companies having large industrial plants who need a qualified operator with infrastructures and expertise in the field of remediation and waste management.

The new company established today combines, in fact, Hera's consolidated multi-business strategy and innovative set of plants with ACR's experience, gained over 45 years of activity.

The Hera Group currently manages over one hundred certified, state-of-the-art plants, capable of treating all types of waste (municipal, industrial and liquid and solid) and employing 1,600 specialised operators. Through its subsidiary HASI, it treats 1.3 million tonnes of industrial waste every year in 18 multi-purpose sites. ACR, instead, can boast a high operational capacity, time to market in services, a considerable set of machinery and equipment, over 450 employees, approximately ten operating sites in Italy, more than 100 active reclamation sites, and, among its customers, the major players in the oil & gas sector.

"For the Hera Group, investing in an important operator based in Emilia such as ACR is perfectly in line with our strategic guidelines. With the Group's activities, we aim to guarantee positive returns and economic benefits for the areas served. Moreover, in full continuity with the transactions completed in recent years", states the **Hera Group's Executive Chairman, Tomaso Tommasi di Vignano**, "this partnership with ACR allows us to strengthen our waste management services intended for large companies, expanding operational

and plant capacity and expanding our presence in the country. In a complex scenario, characterised by infrastructural shortcomings and a high level of sector fragmentation, companies now require integrated management services for their industrial waste. Thanks to our many years of experience, state-of-the-art facilities and highly specialised personnel, we are able to support companies with turnkey proposals and high quality and safety standards. Advanced in terms of the circular economy as well, we are able to make their processes more efficient and virtuous and help them achieve concrete, measurable and increasingly challenging sustainability goals. The synergies resulting from transactions such as this one will therefore bring concrete benefits for all our business customers and will also generate positive repercussions for the local areas served”.

“We are pleased to become part of a company such as the Hera Group, one of Italy’s largest multi-utility organisations that has always maintained strong roots in the local area”, comment the brothers **Alberto and Claudio Reggiani, CEOs of A.C.R. di Reggiani Albertino S.p.A.®** “We and our employees see this partnership as a fundamental step for our company’s growth, which will allow us both to strengthen our presence in the core business of reclamation and to enter the world of global service. With this operation we will enhance, indeed, our activities in the waste management sector, integrating all the necessary and fundamental skills to be counted among the most important players nationwide in these fields”.

A.C.R. di Reggiani Albertino S.p.A.®

ACR, founded in 1978, is a leader in Italy in the remediation and decommissioning sector and in the operational management of waste treatment at the facilities of its large industrial clients. Geographically, ACR’s operational headquarters are located in the municipality of Mirandola (MO) and it operates across most of Italy with the help of other operational offices distributed throughout the country.

www.acrreggiani.it

Hera Group

One of Italy’s largest multi-utilities, the Hera Group operates in the waste management, energy and water sectors, with more than 9,000 employees working every day to meet the multiple needs of around 5 million citizens located mainly in Emilia-Romagna, Veneto, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Marche, Tuscany and Abruzzo. Listed since 2003, it is among the top 40 Italian companies in terms of capitalisation (and is part of the FTSE Mib index) and since 2020 has been included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index, World and Europe.

The subsidiary Herambiente is the country’s leading operator in the waste treatment sector. With 100 certified plants, over 1,600 specialised operators and a dedicated sales structure, it operates on the national and international market and acts as a European benchmark. Within the Herambiente Group, Herambiente Servizi Industriali (HASI) is the largest Italian company dedicated to managing industrial waste, with headquarters in Bologna and three commercial offices in Ravenna, Padua and Pisa.

www.gruppohera.it – www.herambiente.it