

Press release

GDPR - 4 out of 10 businesses do not have dedicated resources for Data Protection

Digital360 launches its new “Audit & Control” practice for the Data Protection Officer service

Milan, 14 September 2018 – The new European regulation on personal data protection necessitates the introduction of new competencies within companies for the management of company information assets. Data protection is seen as being of fundamental importance by 74% of Italian companies, but as many as 39% have not allocated dedicated resources to this area¹. **Digital360 S.p.A.**, a company listed on AIM Italia – Mercato Alternativo del Capitale - organised and managed by Borsa Italiana S.p.A. (“AIM Italia”), has set up a new advisory area specialising in internal audit activities that will be entrusted, in particular, with the management of a new service called “*Data Protection Officer (DPO) as a service*”.

The Group, through its subsidiary **P4I-Partners4Innovation**, intends in this way to provide an innovative solution to public and private organisations needing to identify suitable persons for the role of Data Protection Officer (“DPO”) - introduced by EU Regulation 2016/679 of 27 April 2016 pertaining to personal data protection (known by the English acronym “GDPR”) - a role that necessarily calls for multidisciplinary competencies. This is a role that, as highlighted by the European Committee for the Protection of Personal Data (formerly WP29), ideally requires a knowledge - alongside the necessary competencies in national and European data protection legislation and procedures - of the specific activity sector and organisational structure of the relevant company or entity, as well as a familiarity with the data processing operations performed, the IT systems used and the organisation’s data security and protection needs.

In view of the difficulties faced by organisations in recruiting staff or creating in-house teams with the multiple competencies required by the DPO role, P4I is launching “*DPO as a service*”, providing companies with a team of multidisciplinary resources able to tackle all the tasks associated with this role with professionalism and expertise. This service will enable organisations to employ a mix of specialist resources in the necessary operational areas through the sole interface of P4I and in compliance with the regulatory requirements for the DPO role.

According to **Gabriele Faggioli**, CEO of P4I, Chairman of Clusit and Scientific Director of the Politecnico di Milano’s Osservatorio Information Security and Privacy: “*This mix of competencies is fully compatible with the role of Data Protection Officer, one that is required to engage in all aspects impacting on personal data processing in the context of multiple company processes that can also take in technologies and innovative services. It’s therefore essential to give organisations all the tools they need to make the role of the DPO effective, monitoring the application of the GDPR, facilitating compliance with it and minimising the risk of violations*”.

The central importance of personal data processing for many activity sectors, amplified by the

¹ Source: Osservatorio Information Security & Privacy Politecnico di Milano

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impact of the GDPR and the difficulty of recruiting specialist resources for the DPO role externally, mean that the market of reference that Partners4Innovation is able to fill is very wide due to the company's consolidated experience in data protection and its integration of different competencies.

The team that makes up the new "Audit & Control" practice, entrusted with the operation of "DPO as a service", will respond directly to the Board of Directors of Partners4Innovation. Operational coordination of the practice will be entrusted to **Andrea Reghelin**, who will be managing a dedicated and rapidly growing multidisciplinary team made up of legal experts, organisational specialists and experts in IT and information security. The market positioning will be facilitated by close collaboration with the other Digital 360 companies, a unique multi-channel platform consisting of journalistic publications, online portals and communication, marketing and lead-generation events and services.

This press release is available on the website www.digital360.it.

The Digital360 Group Digital360 aims to partner with businesses and public administrations, assisting them in the understanding and implementation of digital transformation solutions and relying on the best technology providers on the market. Digital360 pursues this objective through a multichannel platform unique in Italy, referred to as the "MatchMaking Platform", composed of online portals, white papers, events, webinars, communications and marketing services, lead generation initiatives and advisory/consulting. Digital360 integrates a multidisciplinary and multicultural mix of professionalism and expertise, thanks to analysts, journalists, consultants and experts active in the digital world who all share a great passion and a common mission: digital innovation as an engine of growth and modernisation of our country. For more information: www.digital360.it

P4I-Partners4Innovation is a company within the Digital360 group offering Advisory and Coaching services to support Digital Transformation and business innovation for companies and public administration entities. The approach of Partners4Innovation is unique in its use of methodologies, benchmarks and distinctive data that enable it to go beyond the confines of traditional consulting, offering businesses and public administration entities, large or small, accessible services designed to enrich and boost the vision, competencies and abilities of decision makers within the organisation.

Investor relation: Emilio Adinolfi

emilio.adinolfi@digital360.it, telefono +39 0292852801

Digital360 press office: d'I comunicazione

Piero Orlando po@dicomunicazione.it mobile +39 3351753472

Nominated Adviser e Specialist: CFO SIM S.p.A.

ecm@cfo-sim.com, telefono +39 02303431

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