

## CONIO RAISES \$3M IN NEW CASH THE FINTECH COMPANY ACHIEVES \$40M+ VALUATION

**MILAN**, **Italy – June 22**, **2018 – Conio**, the fintech company focused on providing blockchain-based services to banks, insurance companies, enteprises and public/private institutions, has successfully closed its Series A2 Round capital increase. A group of Qualified Investors, orchestrated by strategic advisor Innova et Bella, has underwritten the whole capital increase of around **\$3 million**, which reflects a **total valuation of the company of \$40+ million**.

Conio, founded in San Francisco in 2015, is the first fintech company in Europe today providing to financial institutions, banks and insurance companies integrated solutions for digital asset management, from e-wallets to manage cryptocurrency holdings to the integration of blockchain protocols within cards and smartphone payment services. Conio solutions and e-wallets are offered in white and private label versions and may be seamlessly integrated within financial applications made available by banking companies to their own retail, private and corporate clients.

Upon closing the deal, **Christian Miccoli**, Conio's Co-founder, CEO and Business Development Director, formerly CEO of CheBanca! - Mediobanca group, expresses his satisfaction: "The immediate closure of the Round, the flattering terms offered by our new Shareholders and their profile as professional investors testify to the credibility of Project Conio and of the people with whom we have the privilege of sharing our daily work activity. The funds raised by Conio will enable further development of our service offer to support our retail and corporate clients in the use of blockchain protocols and banking e-wallets for digital asset management. Banks, insurance companies, enterprises and institutions may find in Conio today an even stronger partner to support their growth strategies in the new digital assets markets all over the world."

Vincenzo Di Nicola, Conio's Co-founder, CEO and Technology Director, holder of a Master's degree in Computer Science at Stanford and creator of the Gopago technology, later sold to Amazon, emphasizes the technological value of the blockchain-based services provided by Conio to its partners: "Our security protocols, guaranteed by proprietary patents, provide our partners with unique, genuinely world-class standards. The new funds raised by Conio allow us to ramp up our research and development activities in key industries and in others that will soon make use of digital currencies: from e-commerce to telecom, from financially smart cars to smart insurance contracts, leveraging cutting-edge blockchain technologies which we are helping to develop. In each of these markets, we are striving to be able to meet the growing demand of partnerships that we are getting from banks and insurance companies, enterprises and institutions."

Besides the two Co-founders, Conio counts among its shareholders Poste Italiane, Banca Finanziaria Internazionale, Fabrick, Boost Heroes, the Italian Angels for Growth network, David Capital and a wide group of professional investors.



Paolo Zaccardi, CEO of Fabrick, a newly-formed ecosystem that represents the collaborative evolution of Open Banking in which banks, fintech companies and other players of the financial and industrial system connect in order to collaborate and develop new services and business models, stresses the distinctiveness of Conio's offer and the synergies between Conio and the Fabrick ecosystem: "Our investment in Conio is strategic since it enhances our platform in line with the mission we have set for ourselves, that is, to support innovation in all economic and financial industries. By easing access to Conio's proprietary technologies, we can offer our partners and all players operating on Fabrick the ability to embrace with a high degree of quality and security the blockchain protocols that promise to bring about further evolution in all transactional activities."

**Fabio Cannavale**, reference shareholder of Boost Heroes, the venture capital firm specialized in investments in and support to startups, emphasizes Conio's "open innovation" values: "Our mission is to support a culture of innovation in our country by making it easier for our startups and our conventional companies to engage with each other. Conio's proprietary technologies make it possible to securely integrate the blockchain protocols the promise to disrupt whole areas of transactional activities. We are glad to contribute to the development of their innovative solutions."

Antonio Leone, President of Italian Angels for Growth, the leading network of Italian angel investors, welcomes the opportunity to offer their partners the full attractiveness of an investment in the blockchain: "We were aware that interest in Conio had also been expressed by some of the main international venture capital funds. We are happy that Conio has chosen our partner IAG among its first travel companions. Conio has given our investors the opportunity to diversify a part of their portfolio by investing directly in a blockchain and cryptocurrency leader. We have given Conio the value of a unique set of active and motivated investors – entrepreneurs, managers and professionals who, besides their financial assets, make a valuable networks of professional relationships and connections available to the company."

Andrea De Vido, CEO of David Capital, the financial investment company based in the exclusive via Montenapoleone in Milan, frames its investment in Conio as a partnership with a strategy that is consistent with his company's core business: "As a financial company focused on serving corporate clients by providing them all kinds of investment banking services, it is important for us to embrace cutting-edge solutions in this area. The disruptive development of ICOs and the regulatory challenge posed by the new digital IPOs require us to enter the playing field in order to provide our clients with a safe guide to navigate the universe of the new blockchain technologies. Our partnership with Conio strengthens our position as leaders in the offer of evolved investment banking services."

**Francesco Guido Bonetti**, President of **Innova et Bella**, advisor and orchestrator of the capital raise effort, has synthesized the rationale of a guaranteed success: "We closed this Round of capital raise for Conio the same day in which it started, after gathering expressions of interest in a prebooking phase in which the demand was 3.5 times as much as the available supply. Conio offers



banks, enterprises and institutions an immediate strategic solution and an e-wallet that is already operational to compete on an equal footing with large international leaders. Thus, the attention of professional investors has been extremely high towards a market that based on our estimates is going to engage over 10 million holders of digital currencies in Italy and over 400 million globally in the coming years."

## Conio

A startup company founded in 2015 by Christian Miccoli and Vincenzo Di Nicola, it has developed the first Italian mobile e-wallet for bitcoin trading, based on one of the most innovative security technologies in the world.

The **Conio Bitcoin Wallet** is designed for any type of user and allows to purchase, sell, hold, send and receive bitcoins directly on your smartphone. Users may access their "smart-wallet" via a mobile app designed and developed with the specific goal of simplifying a world that is often still too complicated for the general public. All it takes to start using the Conio Bitcoin Wallet is to download the app on your smartphone (available for Android and iOS). It immediately allows you to check the exchange value of the cryptocurrency and the content of your wallet.

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