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StormHarbour appoints senior team dedicated to Italian market

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StormHarbour, the leading independent global markets and financial advisory firm, today announces the appointment of a senior team that will spearhead the firm's push into the Italian market. Massimo Araldi (Managing Director) and Nicoletta Zappatini (Principal and Managing Director) have joined StormHarbour to lead a team of 5 in driving the growth of the business in this strategically important market.

Massimo and Nicoletta will both be based in London, and bring with them over 40 years combined investment banking experience in Italy. Massimo Araldi, will be responsible for origination in the Italian market, focusing on financial institutions, whilst Nicoletta will be responsible for developing StormHarbour's Global Infrastructure origination business, across equities, securitisation, and mezzanine debt; in addition to overseeing Italian government, corporate and institutional clients.

The appointments are part of StormHarbour's ambitious European growth strategy and reiterate the firm's commitment to add highly experienced industry professionals across its core securities businesses.

Massimo has spent a decade at Deutsche Bank, where he was responsible for Italian Financial Institutions Group, focusing on origination and execution of strategic M&A, capital raising, structured financing and asset deleveraging transactions. He previously worked at Salomon Smith Barney / Citi in their Financial Institutions Group. Nicoletta joins StormHarbour from Credit Agricole, where she was Managing Director and Head of Origination for the Italian Debt Capital Markets-Securitisation platform, specialising in Corporate and Sovereign transactions and Project Bonds. Nicoletta previously worked for

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Citigroup in New York, London and Italy with roles focussing on Corporate, Project and Export Finance.

StormHarbour's unique model continues to benefit from the shifting financial services landscape in Europe, particularly in sectors vacated by full service banks and the senior appointments follow the opening of an office in Madrid earlier this year, which saw Juan Del Rivero, formerly a Partner and Chairman of Goldman Sachs for Spain and Portugal, join the firm as Senior Advisor.

Amir Hoveyda, Managing Principal, said: "Southern Europe represents a very important opportunity for StormHarbour, as evidenced by our strong momentum in Portugal and Spain. Our value proposition, combining sector and product expertise, global distribution and independence resonates with clients looking for specialist and objective advice and global execution capabilities. I look forward to working with Massimo, Nicoletta and their team to further our footprint in Italy."