

PRESS RELEASE

BFF BANKING GROUP AND ALTHEA TOGETHER TO PROVIDE MEDICAL DEVICES TO ITALIAN HOSPITALS FOR THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

Milan, 1 April 2020 – BFF Banking Group – the leading European financial services provider to suppliers of the Public Administrations – and Althea – the pan-European leader of integrated healthcare technology management – signed a non recourse factoring agreement to cover the financial needs for the procurement of medical devices intended to increase the intensive and sub-intensive care units of Italian hospitals facing the Covid-19 emergency.

The agreement between the two companies allowed them to respond to the health emergency with fast and effective supplies to the Italian hospitals, by combining Althea's technical and operational excellence with BFF Banking Group's financial capacity to provide its factoring services for current and future credits related to new Consip¹ tenders.

The agreement follows the Althea's adjudication of the initial four lots of the tender "*Emergency negotiated procedure Medical devices for intensive and sub-intensive care units for the Covid-19 emergency*", announced on March 6 by Consip S.p.A.. Althea has already supplied - ahead of the Consip schedule - the first 370 lung ventilators and the 5,000 multi-parameter monitors needed for intensive and sub-intensive care units of the Italian hospitals.

"The cooperation with BFF Banking Group, comes immediately after the award of the Consip tender. This is a concrete demonstration of efficiency and collaboration in the interest of society in order to face such an extreme health emergency, also considering the challenging schedule that Althea is respecting to supply medical devices. What makes us particularly proud is to have brought in this critical moment an example of tangible social responsibility, generating value and service for the entire community" – said **Enrica Mambelli, Chief Financial Officer of Althea Group.**

¹ Consip, a publicly owned stock company, acts as the central purchasing body on behalf of the State.

*“We are proud to have contributed to the prompt supply of further intensive care units to face the Covid-19 emergency, by making our financial resources available to Althea.” – said **Roberto Castiglioni, VP Factoring, BFF Banking Group.** “BFF has developed a factoring product that helps companies and Public Administrations to promptly address the supplies needs of the healthcare system, essential to manage the current emergency.”*

BFF Banking Group

BFF Banking Group, listed on the Milan Stock Exchange since 2017, is the leading player specialised in the management and non-recourse factoring of trade receivables due from the Public Administrations in Europe. The Group operates in Italy, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Greece, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and Spain. It is also active in Germany, The Netherlands and Ireland with on-line term deposits, by serving a total of 12 Countries across Europe. In 2019 it reported a consolidated Adjusted Net Profit of € 98.8 million, with a 10.9% Group CET1 ratio at the end of December 2019. www.bffgroup.com

Althea

Althea is the pan-european leader of integrated healthcare technology management. Globally Althea employs 3,000 staff of engineers, technicians, administrators and customer service specialists to manage more than 1.4 million medical devices within 2,700 healthcare facilities. Althea’s network of 9 Workshops specialized in endoscopy, surgical instruments and ultrasound probes and 4 Centres of Excellence across Europe & USA, dedicated for testing of high-end equipment and training for engineer professional development, confirms Althea’s leading position as a pan-european leader in the multivendor management of medical equipment. www.althea-group.com

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