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## Leading European mobile payment solutions MB WAY, BANCOMAT Pay, and BIZUM establish a partnership for interoperability

Lisbon, December 14, 2023 - SIBS (MB WAY, Portugal), BANCOMAT (Italy), and BIZUM (Spain), leading mobile payment services companies in their markets, signed a Letter of Intent to implement interoperability. This agreement aims to enable their users to make simple, convenient and safe instant payments using their mobile phone across the three countries.

With the vision of contributing to the development of a sovereign and robust Pan-European payments market by enabling interoperability between existing payment solutions, leveraging on SEPA instant payment standards and best in class mobile payment solutions, the objective of this agreement is to connect the three leading mobile payment solutions that are trusted by users in each of these countries, leaving the door open to the involvement of other European payment solutions in later stages of this initiative.

MB WAY, BANCOMAT Pay® and BIZUM provide person-to-person (P2P) and person-to-business (P2B) payments. The solutions are used by 42,7 million users, that made 1,47 billion payments in 2023, in the three countries.

The agreement outlines the principles of interoperability between MB WAY, BANCOMAT Pay®, and BIZUM, with the goal to develop the P2P interoperability in 2024 as a first step to be followed by other payment use cases in the future.

For **Madalena Cascais Tomé**, SIBS CEO, comments "With this agreement we are taking an important step towards achieving interoperability between MB WAY and major European mobile payment solutions. That will enable our users in Portugal to send and receive money instantly to/from a Spanish or Italian mobile phone number, in the most convenient and safe way. We believe that interoperability between European mobile payment solutions unlocks the potential of SEPA Instant Payments and establishes the grounds for truly efficient and innovative pan-European payments."

For **Oscar Occhipinti**, BANCOMAT S.p.A. CMO, "Thanks to this agreement we can proudly announce that BANCOMAT Pay®, takes a further step towards European interoperability and specifically in being able to allow Italian customers to carry out a P2P between Spanish and Portuguese customers. We believe that this is the right way to create a true PAN-European alternative network in order to increase transactions and SCT-INST usage".

For **Ángel Nigorra**, Bizum CEO, comments "The widespread acceptance of digital payment methods by users is an unquestionable phenomenon. An example of this is Bizum in Spain, with over 25 million users, where 'making a *bizum*' has become part of the everyday language of citizens. With this agreement, Bizum aims to create a solution that meets all the payment and collection needs of European citizens, regardless of their country of origin, and for that, interoperability between markets is essential. We hope that this is just the first step for users



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to have a simple, convenient, secure, and universal mobile payment method for their everyday transactions.”

#### **About SIBS**

With nearly four decades of existence, SIBS provides modern, reliable, and secure financial services, particularly in the payments sector, to over 150 million users across three different continents, processing over 9 billion transactions annually. Besides being one of the main payment processors in Europe, SIBS is a reference in Security and Anti-Fraud solutions in Business Process Outsourcing and a leader in the Iberian Peninsula in card production and customization.

SIBS was born and has grown by innovating, and it will continue its mission. Technology is its driving force, and through it, SIBS has reinvented existing payment methods and created MB WAY, the most modern and comprehensive national mobile payment service. With over 5 million users conducting purchases, immediate transfers, and withdrawals using only their mobile phones. The company is also responsible for managing the ATM Express and MULTIBANCO Networks, the largest and most universal Portuguese ATM network. It has added dozens of features, many of which are unprecedented globally, making it not only the largest ATM network in Portugal but also the most comprehensive in the world. Additionally, SIBS manages multiple digital payment channels, from POS terminals to online platforms and mobile devices.

SIBS is also a significant international player, operating in various markets, including Europe, Asia, and Africa, where SIBS solutions operate on more than 850,000 terminals processing around 2 billion transactions. Noteworthy is its activity in Romania, where it acquired the leading card processing company, Romcard/Supercard, now operating under the name SIBS Romania, and in Poland, where it owns PAYTEL, one of the leading payment terminal operators driving the market. SIBS holds a relevant position in these important markets of Central and Eastern Europe, contributing Portuguese technology and know-how to their development and digitalization.

With commitment, SIBS consistently pursues its mission to be the reference partner for public and private entities, creating value for society through the development and management of payment solutions, processes, and related services based on technology that combines security, convenience, and innovation. The company adheres to good behavioral principles and sustainability conditions.

For more information about SIBS, you can visit [www.sibs.com](http://www.sibs.com).

#### **About BANCOMAT ([www.bancomat.it](http://www.bancomat.it))**

Since 40 years BANCOMAT S.p.A., the most widespread and well-known payment scheme in Italy, is managing withdrawal and withdrawal scheme identified by the BANCOMAT Brands such as BANCOMAT®, PagoBANCOMAT® and BANCOMAT Pay®. It is one of the main and most important operators in the debit card payments market in Italy, with over 2.8 billion of payment and withdrawal transactions for a value of approximately Euro 225 billion on a monthly basis and about 32 million cards in circulation. It is owned by 113 Italian banks.

#### **About BIZUM**

With more than 25 million users in Spain and Andorra, Bizum is a joint project that falls within the collaborative and digital innovation initiatives of the Spanish banking sector. A convenient, fast, and secure mobile payment solution through which banks expand their service offerings to customers; the only solution based on immediate SEPA transfers. The combined total of banking brands offering Bizum to their customers already represents a market share of over 99%, and Bizum continues to work on incorporating new users and use cases.

For more information about Bizum, you can visit [www.bizum.es/en](http://www.bizum.es/en).