

**BTL Banca and Cassa Centrale Banca support
Optec S.p.A.'s development projects in the space economy
A €2.2 million real estate loan to support the innovation projects of the Milan-based company,
leader in the sector of optics applied to the aerospace industry.**

Brescia, 25 November 2021 - To support innovation projects and business development programs in the production of optical devices for the aerospace industry. This, in brief, is the purpose of the important real estate financing transaction closed in recent weeks by BTL Banca del Territorio Lombardo and Cassa Centrale Banca in favor of Optec S.p.A., the leading company in the precision optics sector with operative sites located in Parabiago (MI) and Torrance (USA).

Specifically, it concerns the granting of a real estate lease of € 2.2 million for the purchase and renovation of a new facility of a total of 3,200 m² located in Busto Garolfo. The building will be used to host the Company's new production areas, leaving the actual ones to be used for space laboratories and research and development activities.

A family business founded in 1985 - owned by the Cilia's family - Optec S.p.A. is a leading company in Europe and worldwide in the field of optics, optoelectronics and optomechanics. It operates in the fields of control and monitoring processes, analysis and scanning of paper and documents, robotics, laser systems for cutting, 3d welding, hardening and cladding, color analysis, online and/or automated inspections, image processing (medical and scientific), radiological equipment, photographic analysis and processes and aerial reconnaissance.

The purchase and renovation of the building is intended to support Optec's dimensional and productive growing, also in view of the investments and development potentially foreseen in the space economy sector, where Optec is creating a solid reputation by being able to transfer the experience gained in the industrial sector to a market that is evolving in terms of numbers (see the constellations of micro and nano satellites and especially the rapidly expanding field of intra-satellite laser communications).

Building on the experience developed in recent years through participation in international space programs - since 1992 Optec SpA has been present in this sector with an innovative optical system developed for Spacelab, Mission D2, designed for use in the Advanced Fluid Physics Module (AFPM) experiment - thanks also to the funding Optec intends to continue its path of growth in the field of optics applied to the aerospace industry and in particular the supply of optical lenses for satellites. Optec has already given its valuable contribution to international missions of global importance for Earth and Oceans observation (NEMO-HD mission with the Slovenian Space Agency - Eaglet mission with OHB), for the study of the solar corona (METIS mission) till the very last launch of the NASA mission called DART for the interception and deflection of an asteroid. It is currently involved in a major order, still top secret, for intra-satellite laser communication.

We are very pleased to have concluded this transaction," emphasizes Matteo De Maio, General Manager of BTL Banca del Territorio Lombardo, and Michele Bini, Head of the Northern Corporate Service of Cassa Centrale Banca. "This is further confirmation of how the Group's structure allows us to respond in an increasingly organic manner to the needs of the territory, including, as in the case of Optec S.p.A., by financing companies with great development potential, leaders in their reference markets and with a strong propensity for innovation.

Banca del Territorio Lombardo today has 71 branches, 53 of which are present in the territory of the province of Brescia, 387 employees and 7,700 Members. Since 2019, it has been part of the Cassa Centrale Banca - Credito Cooperativo Italiano Cooperative Banking Group based in Trento, which has 77 banks and 1,500 branches throughout Italy, over 11,000 employees and around 450,000 Cooperative Members.