

PRESS RELEASE

TELECOM ITALIA AND HUAWEI: AGREEMENT TO CREATE A BUSINESS INNOVATION CENTRE SIGNED

The aim of the agreement is to strengthen joint activities to create an innovation centre in Italy to develop innovative services and solutions

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Telecom Italia and Huawei have signed a three year cooperation agreement to create a Business Innovation Centre (BIC) in Italy with the aim of developing innovative technologies and high quality services.

The agreement, which strengthens the collaboration between the two companies, was signed at Huawei headquarters at Shenzhen, in China, by Marco Patuano, Chief Executive Officer of Telecom Italia and Eric Xu, Rotating CEO of Huawei.

In particular, the Business Innovation Centre will devise and make available new service and solution concepts for consumer and business customers of Telecom Italia, in both the fixed and mobile segments. The BIC will be the ideal place where customers and businesses can experience first hand the innovative services and the ways in which new technologies will transform the lives of customers and the business processes of companies.

Based on the existing strategic collaboration, Telecom Italia and Huawei will examine and develop the arrangements for cooperating on innovation, focussing particularly on reducing "time to market" and the search for new business models, adding to the development phase the customer experience phase that today is a necessary complement for the dissemination and market success of a new service proposal.

"This major agreement with Huawei – declared Marco Patuano, Chief Executive Officer of Telecom Italia – will relaunch our reciprocal commitment to create centres of excellence for technological innovation, with the aim of creating new service models. This is an initiative that will contribute to enhance the value of Telecom Italia's path to stimulate growth in Italy, also thanks to our investments to develop latest generation network infrastructures throughout the country."

"We are very proud to increase our collaboration with a long-standing partner like Telecom Italia - declared Eric Xu, Rotating CEO of Huawei - Today's announcement consolidates Huawei's winning strategy of working alongside its customers and partners to jointly develop innovation centres throughout the world. Thanks to the new Business Innovation Centre, Huawei's investment in Italy will enable us to make use of local resources and skills."

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