

ITU Geneva: Poste Italiane signs a new partnership for Cyber security

CEO Massimo Sarmi signs an agreement with IMPACT, the international committee involved in studying technological solutions for security in digital communication

Geneva, 6 October 2009 - **Poste Italiane** today signed a memorandum of understanding in Geneva with **IMPACT** (International Multilateral Partnership Against Cyber threats), the world's first joint public-private organisation to create a "community" that brings companies specialised in the ICT sector together with the Institutions in order to guarantee the global security of IT communications. The agreement was signed by the CEO of Poste Italiane, **Massimo Sarmi**, and the Chairman of IMPACT, **Mohamed Nour Amin**, in front of Hamadoun Touré, Secretary-General of the **International Telecommunications Union** (ITU) the UN agency that specialises in Information and Communication Technology, and Edouard Dayan, Secretary-General of the **Universal Postal Union**, the UN agency that specialises in postal services.

"Cyber Security – declared the Minister for Economic Development, Claudio Scajola - is now a priority on the institutional agenda. This is why the Italian Government intends to lend its full support to the plan organised by Poste Italiane and to international cooperation in the sector, in order to support the development of policies aimed at guaranteeing security in digital communications".

"The agreement signed today with IMPACT – said the CEO of Poste Italiane, Massimo Sarmi – affords further international recognition to the work carried out by Poste Italiane to ensure all kinds of communication – including communication via web – is secure, to the benefit of institutions, businesses and private individuals. We are proud – the CEO added – of the support and the boost ITU and IMPACT will guarantee for our Cyber Security projects, and we are aware of the importance of representing a benchmark model for innovation".

The memorandum of understanding establishes the creation of an international-level process for the exchange of information, notification of alerts and guidelines on the security of communications. The collaboration with IMPACT (whose head offices are in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia) will focus on four main areas: applied research, training and skills development; international cooperation and the drafting of policies on security; encouraging and enhancing an IT security culture among institutions, and the world of enterprise and private individuals.

Poste Italiane is a forerunner of the Cyber Security projects. On 30 June 2009 Poste Italiane signed an agreement with the US Secret Service and the Department for Public Security – Postal Services and Communications Police, ratifying an international alliance to establish a "European Electronic Crime Task Force," based in Rome, charged with identifying and disseminating new techniques and methodologies to fight Cyber Crimes. This is the first task force against cyber crime to be set up outside of the United States. Thanks to its considerable experience in the field of Cyber Security, Poste Italiane recently became the only non-U.S. body to be included in the New York Electronic Crime Task Force.