



**Press Release** 

## An aquarium made in Italy to the Caucasus: SACE and Unicredit support Clax Italia's export to Georgia

## Guaranteed orders for € 2 million aquarium at Tbilisi

Rome, 26 March – Thanks to the insurance-financial support of UniCredit and SACE, which with SIMEST forms the export and internationalization hub of the CDP Group, Clax Italia will export two methacrylate cylinders to Tbilisi for building a large aquarium worth  $\in$  2 million, intended for one of the most important hotels in the Georgian capital.

Demonstrating growing economic dynamism and attention to exploiting the value of its landscape, the Caucasian country offers interesting opportunities in the tourism sector from hotels to restaurants. To develop and support this sector, the government has promoted a new investment plan, called "Check-in Georgia". The country has also intensified relations of commercial cooperation with Europe, particularly with Italy, now its no. 3 trading partner.

As part of the initiative, SACE has guaranteed a performance bond, issued by UniCredit, guaranteeing proper execution of the order by Clax Italia. Collaboration between SACE and the Lazio-based SME has existed for years and has enabled the company to export its products to all the continents. Clax Italia has also used SIMEST's "Program for entering non-EU markets" to access low-interest loans for internationalization. The SACE SIMEST instruments often are essential, especially for small and midsize firms, in order to find the right guarantees for operating in the more complex foreign markets.

Founded at Pomezia in 1994, Clax Italia is specialized in the production of standard blocks and sheets and large acrylic blocks for aquariums. The company has supplied its products to prestigious structures such as the Science Museum of Miami, the Busan aquarium in South Korea, the Poema del Mar aquarium at Las Palmas, The Two Ocean Aquarium in Capetown, The Tisch Family in Gerusalemme, Nausicaa in France, and many others.



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**SACE**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, offer export credit services, credit insurance, protection of foreign investments, financial guarantees, bonding, and factoring. With  $\in$  87 billion in transaction insured in 198 countries, it supports the competitiveness of companies in Italy and abroad, ensuring more stable cash flows and transforming the default risk of companies into development opportunities. With **SIMEST**, of which it owns 76%, it forms the export and internationalization hub: a single point of reference for access to all the insurance-financial instruments of the CDP Group designed to support the competitiveness and foreign growth of Italian companies worldwide.



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**UniCredit** is a simple, successful pan-European group with a linear commercial model and a perfectly integrated Corporate & Investment Banking sector that provides over 25 million customers with a single network in Western, Central and Eastern Europe. UniCredit offers local competencies as well as an international network that can accompany and support its vast customer base globally, providing unprecedented access to leading banks in its 14 strategic markets and in 18 other countries worldwide. The group network includes Italy, Germany, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Hungary and Turkey. Italy is a strategic market for UniCredit. Here UniCredit has over € 160 billion in loans in favor of 7.5 million customer families and companies. UniCredit promotes an informed approach to investments, providing innovative instruments and services. The reliability and authoritativeness of UniCredit provide an anchor for investments in a constantly-changing world, with the objective of finding the best investment opportunities for customers within their risk profiles. UniCredit is also distinguished for a complete range of banking services plus personalized consulting that includes investment solutions and insurance and retirement products designed to respond exactly to the personal and family needs of each client.