
PRESS RELEASE

Banks: ABI, the CBI network at the service of the Public Administration

Sabatini: "With the new hub service and electronic invoicing, the PA takes another step forward towards innovation, the automation of its procedures and the dematerialisation of documents".

CBI is increasingly tailored for business, but also for the Public Administration. While the number of companies that use interbank corporate banking services continues to rise (over 800 thousand, +8% compared to 2008), the CBI (Customer to Business Interaction) Consortium has developed a new "hub" service to meet the PA's need to dematerialise processes, simplify procedures, improve internal efficiency and relations with citizens and businesses. Essentially, it's a service that permits direct access to the CBI network CBI by institutional users to transmit cash flows to the banking sector, electronic invoices and document flows. The "CBI hub" also enables system standards to be established and to personalise on-line services to the needs of the Public Administration. These innovative services in the interbank corporate banking sector and their contribution to making dialogue between banks, enterprise and the Public Administration more efficient were presented today at the ABI CBI 2009 Conference, during which the results of the Final Report of the European Commission Expert Group on e-Invoicing were also illustrated, which provide the guidelines for electronic invoicing in Europe.

"The CBI hub service – said ABI's general manager, Giovanni Sabatini – for the Public Administration represents, together with e-invoicing, a further step forward along the road towards innovation, increasingly faster, safer and more efficient integrated services, the automation of procedures and the dematerialisation of documents". Already today, the Department for Economic Policy Planning and Coordination of the Ministry of the Economy and Finance (DIPE) and Equitalia Giustizia have direct access to the network and to CBI services. By means of the "CBI hub", the DIPE has tools to monitor financial movements generated by the companies that participate in public tenders for large-scale works. In fact, a pilot project has been launched to monitor the tender for the construction of the Metro C line in Rome; the DIPE is also evaluating possible extensions of the service. Equitalia Giustizia, on the other hand, can use the "CBI node" to acquire information on current accounts and other types of account in the name of the Fondo Unico Giustizia (Single Justice Fund), while stage two of the project is currently being examined, which should include further ad hoc services to enable regulatory functions.

"In relations between banks and the Public Administration – concluded Sabatini – the CBI can provide an important contribution to coordinating, simplifying and making communication with the banking system more efficient, offering a flexible service to meet the specific needs of the Public sector". 683 banks corresponding to over 85% of the Italian banking sector and Poste Italiane (Italian Post Office) subscribe to CBI.

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