



## PRESS RELEASE

### **KKCG and EMMA Capital among Members of a Consortium Awarded License to Operate "Lotto", the Largest Italian Lottery**

**Prague, 15 April 2016** – Italian authorities issued today a provisional award under which the new operator of the Lotto lottery will be a consortium of Italian Gaming Holding a.s. (a subsidiary of KKCG and EMMA Capital), Lottomatica, Novomatic Italia S.p.A., and Arianna 2001 S.p.A. The consortium's bid under a tender for the operator of Lotto was submitted on 16 March 2016, and the evaluation committee of the Italian Customs and Monopoly Agency announced the award of the license to the consortium today.

"We are delighted about the prospect of being a part of the largest privately managed lottery in Europe with annual wagers in excess of seven billion euros. Together with our partners, we will bring to Lotto our expertise, experience with both day-to-day and strategic management of the lottery business, and strong financial resources. The goal of the consortium is to further strengthen Lotto's position on the Italian market," said Štěpán Dlouhý, the Sazka Group's Investment Director who is responsible for lotteries and gaming.

The bid based on which the consortium has been awarded a nine-year license to operate Lotto amounted to EUR 770 million. An additional 130 million euros will be invested into an upgrade of Lotto's technological infrastructure.

The shares in the registered capital held by members of the consortium that won the license to operate Lotto are Italian Gaming Holding – 32.5%, Lottomatica – 61.5%, Arianna 2001 – 4%, and Novomatic Italia – 2%.

"Lotteries and sportsbetting are the key pillar of our business. The transaction is another step on the path to fulfilling the SAZKA Group's strategy to build Europe's largest lottery and sportsbetting operator," explained Dlouhý.

**SAZKA Group a.s.** is a new holding company established as a joint venture intended to aggregate all lottery and gaming assets of KKCG and EMMA Capital. KKCG and EMMA Capital hold a 75% and 25% share in SAZKA Group, respectively. KKCG and EMMA Capital is the biggest investor of EMMA Delta fund which currently owns a 33% stake in the Greek lottery OPAP. KKCG and EMMA Capital own an 11.4% stake in the Austrian lottery Casinos Austria (the share is planned to be increased), and a 100% stake in the Czech lottery company Sazka, a.s.

**KKCG** is an international investment group that manages assets worth 1.6 billion euros and employs 2,500 persons. KKCG specializes in long-term strategic investments in such segments as lotteries and entertainment, crude oil and natural gas production,

technologies, tourism, real estate, manufacturing, and others. KKCG operates in 10 countries worldwide.

**EMMA CAPITAL** is an investment group established in 2012 at the initiative of its majority shareholder Jiří Šmejč. EMMA CAPITAL specializes in strategic investments, where it mainly focuses on the retail business. The usual strategy followed by companies associated under EMMA CAPITAL is becoming actively involved in the management of companies in which the group invests. EMMA CAPITAL currently operates in the Czech Republic, Greece, Romania, Russia, and Slovakia. In addition, EMMA CAPITAL owns an 11.37% stake in the Home Credit Group, one of the largest providers of consumer credit in the world.

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