

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **CERVED INFORMATION SOLUTIONS AND BANCA MONTE DEI PASCHI DI SIENA: EXPIRY OF THE DEADLINE FOR FULFILLMENT OF THE CONDITIONS PRECEDENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE NPLS SERVICING PLATFORM OF BANCA MONTE DEI PASCHI DI SIENA; TALKS UNDERWAY**

**Siena / San Donato Milanese, 28 February 2017** – With reference to the envisaged acquisition of the NPLs servicing platform of Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena S.p.A. (a.k.a. Project Juliet), as per the binding offer presented by Cerved Group S.p.A. on 13 November 2016 and object of a press release released on 14 November 2016, Cerved Information Solutions S.p.A. (MTA: CERV) parent holding company of the Cerved Group, the largest information provider and credit servicer in Italy, and Banca dei Monte dei Paschi di Siena S.p.A., inform that (i.) the conditions precedent required by the contractual documentation to close the transaction were not met within the long-stop date of 28 February 2017, therefore the underlying agreement will be no longer effective, and that (ii.) Cerved Information Solutions S.p.A. has expressed its willingness to extend the long-stop date until 30 June 2017.

Within this context and in any event, Cerved Information Solutions S.p.A. and Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena S.p.A. are currently in talks to evaluate alternative forms of industrial partnership in the field of management of non-performing loans.

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*Cerved Group is a leading information provider in Italy and one of the major credit rating agencies in Europe. It offers the most comprehensive range of products and services used by more than 30 thousand companies and financial institutions to assess the solvency and creditworthiness of its stakeholders, manage credit risk in all its phases, and accurately define marketing strategies. Furthermore, through Cerved Credit Management, Cerved is a leading independent player in offering solutions for the evaluation and management of credit exposures.*

*Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena, founded in 1472, is considered the oldest bank in the world. It is one of the leading Italian banking groups, with significant presence in all business areas. The Montepaschi Group is present all over Italy and in the major international financial centers, operating from traditional banking to private banking and corporate finance, with a particular focus for retail and small and medium-sized enterprises. With over 25,500 employees and 2,043 branches, the Montepaschi Group offers its services to over 5 million (as of 09/30/16)*

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Contacts: Cerved Information Solutions

Community – Strategic Communication Advisers  
Tel. +39 02 89404231  
[cerved@communitygroup.it](mailto:cerved@communitygroup.it)

Investor Relations  
Pietro Masera  
[ir@cervedinformationsolutions.com](mailto:ir@cervedinformationsolutions.com)

Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena

Media Relations  
Tel. +39 0577 296634  
[Ufficio.stampa@mps.it](mailto:Ufficio.stampa@mps.it)

Investor Relations  
Tel. +39 0577 293038  
[Investor.relations@mps.it](mailto:Investor.relations@mps.it)