Subject:
CINI and NVIDIA Announce Cooperation to Advance Artificial Intelligence Research in Italy

First Italian branch of NVIDIA AI Technology Center opens in Unimore

PRESS RELEASE

Modena, January 14, 2020 -- Italy's National Inter-University Consortium for Informatics (CINI) and the National Laboratory of Artificial Intelligence and Intelligence Systems (AIIS) have entered into a cooperation with NVIDIA, a global leader in AI computing, to accelerate the adoption of artificial intelligence in Italy.

Worth an estimated €2 million over three years, this new collaboration will provide researchers in all of Italy, of which more than 1.000 in the CINI-AIIS lab, with access to the latest technology, support students with AI training, and nurture Italy's AI startup community. It will also fuel transformation on a national level across key areas, including energy and the environment, healthcare and transportation.

As part of the collaboration, the first Italian NVIDIA AI Technology Center hub will be opened in Modena and based at the AImageLab of the Engineering Department "Enzo Ferrari".

On the occasion of the opening of the center, Thursday, January 16, 2020 at the Event Hall of the Tecnopolo of Modena (via Vivarelli, 2) at 2.30 p.m. the inauguration ceremony will be held with the greetings of the honorable Rector Prof. Carlo Adolfo Porro, and the Regional Councillor Palma Costi in which Frederic Pariente, NVIDIA AI Technology Center (NVAITC) Manager, EMEA and Prof. Ernesto Damiani President of CINI will present. This will be followed by a roundtable discussion on "AI Future Italy" with participation from large international companies already investing in AI, start-ups, institutions and the CINECA HPC center.

"The CINI consortium - declares the president Prof. Ernesto Damiani - with its national Laboratories and, in particular, with the CINI-AIIS National Laboratory is today a point of excellence at European level, which allows the Italian research community in Artificial Intelligence to collaborate with the main industrial players in the sector."

"Successfully implementing AI requires investment in world-class research and technology," explained Prof. Rita Cucchiara, AImageLab of Unimore and National Lab Director CINI AIIS Laboratorio NVAITC Unimore, Advanced Schools in AI Regione Emilia-Romagna. "Leveraging NVIDIA's expertise to build systems specifically designed for the creation of AI will help secure Italy's position as a top player in AI education, research and industry adoption. There are many who want to invest in AI, which is why I am happy that large international companies such as Tetrapack, Yoox and Net-a-Porter are already working with us and will share their experiences in the afternoon panel discussion."

The honorable Rector Carlo Porro: "We are proud that NVIDIA has chosen to invest in Italy, which already coordinates research through the CINI and is known worldwide for its potential in scientific research. And we are even more proud that this adventure starts in Modena, Italy, which has already collaborated with NVIDIA and supercomputing centers such as CINECA for the training of deep learning networks."

"NVIDIA's AI computing platform is the principal tool used by scientists, researchers and businesses worldwide to harness the power of artificial intelligence," said Dr. Simon See, senior director of NVAITC at NVIDIA. "This cooperation will bring together NVIDIA and CINI in our shared mission to enable, support and inform Italy's AI ecosystem for research, industry and society."

For the full agenda of January 16th, please visit http://aiacademy.unimore.it/news/more-ai