

Novomatic San Marino Consortium Partner

Consortium awarded an unlimited gaming licence for the Republic of San Marino

The global experience and the technological pioneering role of Novomatic Group will presently be drawn upon in San Marino, where on Wednesday, 7 November 2001, the Group, as an exclusive partner, joined the Consortium which on 25 October 2001 was awarded an unlimited gaming licence by the Congresso di Stato, the government of the Republic of San Marino. The San Marino Consortium consists of Swiss investors and Singapore-based General Hotel Management (GHM), the world's leading operator of genuinely luxury-class hotels such as the Aman Resorts in Asia. The Consortium will synchronise the opening date of the gaming operation with the introduction of the Euro on 1 January 2002. The recent licence award ends all speculations on the future of gaming in the Republic of San Marino.

As an exclusive partner to the Consortium, Novomatic Group will contribute its new Multi-Bingo and Multi-Keno gaming systems, the most recent product developments from the Austrian high-tech innovator in the international casino industry, including jackpot systems and management information systems for a permanent online accounting of this extraordinary project, said Novomatic Proprietor Johann F. Graf in an interview today. Extraordinary it is because in the Republic of San Marino gaming has been banned ever since the closure of the San Marino Casino

in 1949, following a decision of the then Italian government. San Marino, the oldest Republic in the world, is situated in the midst of Italy's province of Emilia Romagna, just a few kilometres off the Adriatic coast, and attracts over 4 million tourists annually.

Preliminarily, the gaming operation will open in the refurbished Palazzo dei Congressi, to be relocated later to its final venue in the San Marino Resorts Entertainment Centre, the construction of which is scheduled to be completed within three years.