PRESS RELEASE

ESPE LAUNCHES JOINT VENTURE WITH ESCO AGROENERGETICA TO DEVELOP SMALL-SCALE AGRIVOLTAIC SYSTEMS (<100 kW)

The aim of the partnership with Esco Agroenergetica, an Energy Service Company of the Confederazione Italiana Agricoltori (C.I.A.), is to promote the adoption of small-scale turnkey ground-mounted agrivoltaic systems throughout Italy, creating a new JV company, HelioGea Energy.

Grantorto (Padua), 04 December 2025 - The EPC contractor ESPE S.p.A. (“**ESPE**” or the “**Company**”), parent company of the **ESPE Group**, operates in the renewable energy sector supplying photovoltaic systems, and is also the owner of "ESPE" brand technology used in the manufacture of small-medium wind turbines and biomass cogenerators.

Today, ESPE signed a joint venture agreement ("**Joint Venture**") with Esco Agroenergetica S.r.l. ("**Esco Agroenergetica**"), a company that specializes in providing technical and economic support to agricultural enterprises, with the **creation** of a new company, HelioGea Energy S.r.l. ("**HelioGea Energy**" or "**NewCo**"), which is being set up to develop small-scale agrivoltaic solutions intended in particular for agricultural businesses having less than 3,000 m² of land.

Aims of the Joint Venture

The Joint Venture between ESPE and Esco Agroenergetica, two well-established operators in the renewable energy sector — specializing in photovoltaic and agrivoltaic systems respectively — is designed to integrate their relative areas of expertise and achieve a position of strength in the small-scale agrivoltaic systems segment: hence the creation today of the JV company, HelioGea Energy. NewCo will focus in particular on solutions rated up to 100 kW, based on standardized configurations using photovoltaic modules with tracking or in fixed arrays, designed to ensure efficiency of installation, swift authorization and industrial replicability. HelioGea Energy will offer a **turnkey model**, managing the entire process: customer identification, technical-economic evaluation, management of the authorization process, design, construction, commissioning and post-installation services. Activities will be developed by leveraging the industrial know-how of ESPE and the expertise of Esco Agroenergetica as a provider of energy support to agricultural businesses.

With this market positioning, HelioGea Energy offers its services as an **operator specializing in small-scale agrivoltaic systems**, placing its sphere of operation outside the C&I and utility-scale segments and offering even small businesses the option of procuring an agrivoltaic system capable of maintaining arable land, guaranteeing sustainability and low environmental impact, as well as generating direct economic benefits through a simplified authorization process and taking advantage of the cost incentives on offer to energy communities.

The new Joint Venture will also allow the ESPE Group to expand its offering in a strategic segment that is still relatively unconquered, strengthen its relationship with agricultural enterprises, and valorize the virtuous coexistence of agriculture and energy production by introducing accessible and innovative technologies.

Governance

HelioGea Energy is a company with registered office in Grantorto (Padua) and share capital of €50,000 held jointly by Esco Agroenergetica (51%) and ESPE (49%).

The HelioGea Energy Board of Directors is made up of three members, namely Chairman Enrico Meneghetti, designated by ESPE, Managing Director Marino Berton, designated by Esco Agroenergetica, and a third director Manuel Quattrini, nominated jointly by the two parties.

"*Innovation in the renewables sector has always been a core value of the ESPE mission, and it is our belief that small-scale agrivoltaic solutions can genuinely change the way agricultural businesses manage their energy,"* explains **Enrico Meneghetti**, Chairman and CEO of **ESPE**. *"This joint venture is the result of a wish to make efficient and sustainable solutions accessible even to users having small areas of land. With HelioGea Energy we are bringing together complementary experience and expertise, taking a solid step toward an energy model that is more modern and gets closer to the real needs of the agricultural sector".*

Gianmichele Passarini, Chairman of **Esco Agroenergetica**: *"We are very happy to be starting this collaboration with ESPE, because we share the same vision: that of giving agricultural enterprises simple and reliable tools to improve their energy self-sufficiency. Agrivoltaic systems in the sub-100 kW range offer a huge opportunity to make the most of areas that are currently under-exploited. With HelioGea Energy we want to help build a model of agriculture that is more sustainable, more competitive and able to meet the energy challenges of the future*".

About Esco Agroenergetica

Esco Agroenergetica S.r.l., founded in 2013 at the initiative of the C.I.A. - Confederazione Italiana Agricoltori, is an energy services company with registered office in Rome, specialized in providing support to agricultural and agro-industrial enterprises for the development of renewable energy systems and in energy efficiency schemes. The company aims to reduce energy costs sustained by businesses and promote additional income opportunities through sustainable technologies. Certified to UNI CEI 11352:2014 and with a UNI CEI 11339 qualified Energy Management Expert, Esco Agroenergetica offers technical consultancy, consumption analysis, planning, and help with authorization and funding procedures. Since its creation, the company has worked with national and international clients, providing integrated and customized energy solutions guaranteed to cover the entire process, from initial assessment to practical implementation.

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This press release is also available on the company website www.espe.it and on www.1info.it.

ESPE S.p.A.

*The company ESPE S.p.A. ("ESPE" or the "Company"), based in Grantorto (Padua), has been active in the energy sector since 1974 and gained a reputation as a developer of innovative solutions for the production of energy from renewable sources. Drawing on over 50 years of experience, ESPE builds industrial electrical installations and advanced automation systems and is a leading EPC contractor for ground-mounted photovoltaic arrays and solar farms, as well as a System Integrator for complex infrastructure solutions. Over time, the company has expanded its expertise in renewable energy, establishing itself in the photovoltaic, small-medium wind turbine and biomass cogeneration sectors, thanks not least to its ESPE brand proprietary technologies. In 2024, ESPE consolidated its corporate structure through strategic moves including the acquisition of Permatech S.r.l., a company specializing in the development of large scale PV systems, and the purchase of a stake in Rigoni Lab S.r.l., an applied engineering concern, which also had the effect of adding strength and depth to its design skills and operational efficiency. With a view to optimizing the services provided with its offering, and streamlining the organizational structure, O&M operations were transferred to Reflow S.r.l., a subsidiary owned 57% by ESPE. In January 2025, ESPE acquired a 30% stake in Soland S.r.l., a Piedmont-based company operating in the design and construction of photovoltaic and energy efficiency systems, then in July —seeking to strengthen the **Energy Security** supply chain — a controlling interest of **51% in Secur Impianti S.r.l.**, specialist supplier of security and video surveillance systems for infrastructures. Serving a clientèle that includes large industrial groups, SMEs and Italian and international investors, ESPE is well-known as a provider of tailor-made, technologically advanced solutions and as a campaigner for sustainable growth and innovation, underscoring its place among the leading players in the renewable energy sector.*

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