



## Rome becomes the first European city to offer Open Loop Transit payments to Chinese, Japanese and other cardholders

### Nexi signed 2 strategic partnerships with JCB and with UnionPay

*Holders of contactless cards from these global networks are now able to access Rome's public transportation system easily and quickly, without the need to purchase a ticket in advance*

**Rome, 07 may 2024** – Boarding public transport and pay the fare by simply tapping with a contactless payment card or mobile phone (to which the card is binded) on turnstiles or authorized readers: **Rome is the first city in Europe** to offer this contactless payment service to cardmembers from **international schemes JCB and UnionPay**.

The service, commonly known as open loop transit, **is now available through Nexi**, the leading Italian PayTech in Europe, which has entered into two separate strategic agreements with the two global card schemes to allow the holders of their contactless cards or mobile phone (to which the card in binded) to access Rome's public transportation by paying the fare in this extremely simple, fast, and secure way, thanks to the contactless sales channel developed by ATAC across the entire transportation network of Rome.

**Millions of tourists and citizens, especially from Asian countries**, will be able to benefit from the service on all public transportation vehicles in Rome: the service is active on all surface lines, buses, trams, and trolleybuses, as well as on the entire metro network (metro A, metro B/B1, metro C), in addition to some urban railway lines equipped with entrance turnstiles.

There are several **advantages, both for passengers and for urban mobility as a whole**: no need to purchase a ticket in advance, maximum convenience, security of purchase, guarantee of the best fare calculated on the basis of the last 24 hours of travel, and greater accessibility to public transportation.

*"The partnerships again demonstrate how Nexi has the technology, scale, and expertise to operate successfully at a global level. In particular, we are proud that an Italian city, Rome, will be the first city in Europe to offer this service to a potential pool of millions of Asian citizens, thus accelerating the process of digitalizing travel tickets in Rome,"* **said Filippo Maria Signoretti, Merchant Solutions Director Italy in Nexi.**

**Ray Shinzawa, Managing Director, JCB International (Europe) Ltd., said:** *"JCB offers a unique proposition to European transit operators looking for a reliable partner for their next phase of growth. This exciting partnership reaffirms our commitment to delivering the best solutions for our cardmembers and business partners across Europe, opening the doors to new projects within the transit industry."*



**Mr. Yang Shengliang, Head of UnionPay International Europe Branch, remarked:** *"As a leading global payment network dedicated to enhancing the payment experience for travellers worldwide, UnionPay is thrilled to collaborate with Nexi in introducing Open Loop Transit in Rome. This ground-breaking initiative not only simplifies travel experiences for UnionPay cardholders but also underscores our progress to fostering seamless, innovative payment solutions across Europe."*

The service, which is already available to passengers with Mastercard, Visa, and American Express cards, has already been extended and is currently active for both JCB and UnionPay cardholders.

## **Nexi**

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Nexi is the European PayTech, present in high-growth, attractive European markets and technologically advanced countries. Listed on the Euronext Milan, Nexi has the scale, geographical reach, and capabilities to drive the transition towards a cashless Europe. With its portfolio of innovative products, e-commerce expertise, and specific solutions for the industry, Nexi can provide flexible support for the digital economy and the entire payment ecosystem globally through a wide range of channels and different payment methods. Nexi's technological platform and best-in-class professional skills in the sector allow the company to operate at its best in three market segments: Merchant Solutions, Issuing Solutions, and Digital Solutions. Nexi continuously invests in technology and innovation, focusing on two fundamental principles: meeting the needs of its customers together with its partner banks and creating new business opportunities for them. Nexi is committed to supporting people and businesses of all sizes, transforming the way people pay and businesses accept payments, offering customers the most innovative and reliable solutions to better serve their customers and grow. This is the way how Nexi promotes progress for the benefit of all: simplifying payments and enabling people and businesses to build closer relationships and grow together. [www.nexi.it](http://www.nexi.it) [www.nexigroup.com](http://www.nexigroup.com)

## **JCB**

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JCB is a major global payment brand and a leading credit card issuer and acquirer in Japan. JCB launched its card business in Japan in 1961 and began expanding worldwide in 1981. Its acceptance network includes about 46 million merchants around the world. JCB issues cards across various countries and regions internationally with more than 156 million cardmembers. As part of its international growth strategy, JCB has formed alliances with hundreds of leading banks and financial institutions globally to increase its merchant coverage and cardmember base. As a comprehensive payment solution provider, JCB commits to providing responsive and high-quality service and products to all customers worldwide. For more information, please visit: [www.global.jcb/en/](http://www.global.jcb/en/)

## **UnionPay**

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UnionPay International (UPI) focuses on the international business of UnionPay, a global payment network that serves the world's largest cardholder base. Collaborating with over 2,600 partners globally, UnionPay acceptance now reached to 183 countries and regions. Outside the Chinese Mainland, UnionPay is accepted at nearly 67 million merchants and



1.7 million ATMs. UnionPay International provides high quality, cost effective and secure cross-border payment services to the world's largest cardholder base and ensures convenient local services to a growing number of global UnionPay cardholders and merchants. [www.unionpayintl.com](http://www.unionpayintl.com)

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