

Brexit: FacilityLive, a possible opportunity for innovative companies

Italian startup, first non-UK company in ELITE programme of London Stock Exchange

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BRUSSELS - Brexit could be a “great opportunity” because Britain could become even “more attractive” for innovative companies, believes Gianpiero Lotito, founder and CEO of FacilityLive. The Pavia based startup was the first non-British company admitted to the ELITE programme of the London Stock Exchange. Britain “needs a fabric of innovative businesses”, “so they will probably agree to advantages for companies,” thinks Lotito, who yesterday in Brussels participated in the first EU Tech Day, organised by the European Tech Alliance (EUTA), which includes FacilityLive along with giants such as Spotify and Rovio. Last month Mr Lotito was invited to attend the first conference of the UK Conservative Party after the Brexit referendum. “I listened to British ministers confirming that they too know that it cannot be something traumatic but rather that they have to try to build a possible positive scenario, which cannot be done to the detriment of Europe,” said the CEO of FacilityLive.

While on the one hand the future of European technology will depend on how Brexit is handled, on the other hand the EU Commission is pursuing its work for the creation of a digital single market. Given the diversity of its members, EUTA does not have a unified position over all the issues on the table. “I personally believe that all these things,” such as copyright reform and an end to geoblocking,” are essential, but also an evolving process,” said Lotito. “It is time to start thinking about the steps ahead,” such as the creation of a “long-term” European vision of technology “that does not focus solely on the market but also on producing a generation of core European technologies.” According to the CEO of FacilityLive, the model to follow is that of “small valleys”, based on the fabric created by small towns with great historical universities capable of churning out talent and producing continuous innovation.

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