

**THIS GUARANTEE and INDEMNITY AGREEMENT is dated 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024 and made between:**

- i. **Excel Investments Holdings Limited**, a company incorporated under the laws of Malta with registration number C 94378 and whose registered office is at 72, Mattia Preti Street, Rabat, Ghawdex, VCT2833, Malta, (the "**Guarantor**");
- ii. **CSB Trustees & Fiduciaries Limited**, a company incorporated under the laws of Malta with registration number C 40390 and whose registered office is at Level 3, Tower Business Centre, Tower Street, Swatar, Birkirkara BKR4013, Malta (the "**Security Trustee**").

**WHEREAS:**

- A. Excel Finance p.l.c. (the "**Issuer**") shall issue up to €50,000,000 Secured Bonds at an annual interest rate of 5.4% to be redeemed and finally repaid on 30 December 2031 (the "**Secured Bonds**") by virtue of, and subject to the terms and conditions of, a prospectus dated 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024 issued by the Issuer in connection with the issue of such Secured Bonds (such prospectus, as the same may be amended, varied or supplemented from time to time, hereinafter referred to as the "**Prospectus**");
- B. the majority of the Issuer's shares are owned by the Guarantor;
- C. the Prospectus provides that, and it is a condition of the issuance of the Secured Bonds that, *inter alia*, the Guarantor executes and grants this Guarantee and Indemnity Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "**Guarantee**") whereby it jointly and severally guarantees the punctual performance of the Issuer's payment obligations under the Bond Issue in favour of the Security Trustee for the benefit of the Bondholders; and
- D. the Guarantor has agreed to the conclusion and execution of this Guarantee in favour of the Security Trustee.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS BEING HEREBY AGREED AND COVENANTED AS FOLLOWS:**

**1. INTERPRETATION**

In this Guarantee, unless the context otherwise requires:

"**Indebtedness**" means all moneys, obligations and liabilities now or at any time hereafter due, owing or incurred by the Issuer under the Secured Bonds to the Bondholders (whether alone and/or with others) in terms of the Prospectus and in any and all cases whether for principal, interests, capitalised interests, charges, disbursements, or otherwise and whether for actual or contingent liability;

"**writing**" or "**in writing**" shall mean any method of visual representation and shall include facsimile transmissions, telexes and other such electronic methods.

Capitalised terms used herein which are defined in the Prospectus shall, unless otherwise defined herein or unless the context otherwise requires, have the same meanings herein as in the Prospectus,

The Guarantor hereby acknowledges and declares that it has received a copy of the Prospectus as approved and issued by the Issuer.

## **2. GUARANTEE**

### **2.1 COVENANT TO PAY**

In satisfaction of the conditions of the issuance of the Secured Bonds, and in consideration of the Bondholders acquiring the Secured Bonds, the Guarantor, as duly authorised, as primary obligor, hereby jointly and severally with the Issuer, unconditionally and irrevocably guarantees to the Security Trustee, for the benefit of Bondholders the payment of, and undertakes on first demand in writing made by the Security Trustee on the Guarantor, to pay the Indebtedness to the Security Trustee or any balance thereof at any time due or owing under the Secured Bonds.

### **2.2 LIABILITY AMOUNT**

This is a continuing Guarantee for the whole amount of Indebtedness due or owing by the Issuer under the Secured Bonds but, notwithstanding anything contained in this Agreement, the amount due by the Guarantor to the Security Trustee under this Guarantee shall be up to and shall not be in excess of the Redemption Value of Secured Bonds subscribed for and issued pursuant to the Bond Issue, apart from interests due up to the date of payment and costs and expenses relating to the protection, **preservation, collection or enforcement of the Security Trustee's** rights against the Issuer and/or the Guarantor and/or other provider/s of Collateral which shall be additional to the maximum amount herein referred to.

### **2.3 INDEMNITY**

As a separate and independent stipulation, the Guarantor agrees, as a principal obligation, to indemnify the Security Trustee on demand for all costs, charges and expenses incurred by it relating to the protection, preservation, collection or enforcement of the Security Trustee's rights against the Issuer and/or the Guarantor and/or other provider/s of Collateral as well as for any damages, losses (excluding loss of profit), costs and expenses arising from any failure on the part of the Issuer to perform any obligation to the Security Trustee.

## **3. CONTINUING AND UNCONDITIONAL LIABILITY**

- 3.1 The liability of the Guarantor under this Guarantee shall be continuing until such time as the Indebtedness is fully repaid or until such time as the maximum amounts referred to in clause 2.2 above are paid by the Guarantor hereunder, and will not be prejudiced or affected by, nor shall it in any way be discharged or reduced by reason of:
- a) the bankruptcy, insolvency or winding up of the Issuer; or
  - b) the incapacity or disability of the Issuer or any other person liable for any reason whatsoever; or
  - c) any change in the name, style, constitution, any amalgamation or reconstruction of either the Issuer, or the Guarantor; or
  - d) the Security Trustee conceding any time or indulgence, or compounding with, discharging, releasing or varying the liability of the Issuer or any other person liable or renewing, determining, reducing, varying or increasing any accommodation or transaction or otherwise dealing with the same in any manner whatsoever or concurring in, accepting or in any way varying any compromise, composition, arrangement or settlement or omitting to claim or enforce or exact payment from the Issuer or any other person liable; or
  - e) the release of, or refusal or neglect to perfect, take up or enforce, any rights against, or security over assets of, the Issuer or any other person liable; or
  - f) any event, act or omission that might operate to exonerate the Guarantor without settlement in full of the Indebtedness towards the Security Trustee.

3.2 This Guarantee provides the Security Trustee with the right of immediate recourse against the Guarantor, and the Security Trustee shall not be obliged before taking steps to enforce any of its rights and remedies under this Guarantee:

- a) to make or file any claim in a bankruptcy, liquidation, administration or insolvency of the Issuer or any other person; or
- b) to make, demand, enforce or seek to enforce any claim, right or remedy against the Issuer or any other person.

#### **4. WAIVER OF GUARANTOR'S RIGHTS AND GUARANTOR'S WARRANTIES**

4.1 Without prejudice to clause 2.2 above, this Guarantee shall be for the full amount of the Indebtedness due from time to time. The liability of the Guarantor under this Guarantee shall be decreased from time to time to the extent, if any, that the Issuer or the Guarantor or any other person shall have made any irrevocable payment of the Indebtedness.

4.2 Until the Indebtedness has been paid in full the Guarantor agrees that it will not, without the prior written consent of the Security Trustee:

- a) exercise any rights of subrogation, reimbursement and indemnity against the Issuer;
- b) demand or accept repayment, in whole or in part, of any Indebtedness now or hereafter due to the Guarantor from the Issuer or for repayment of same or demand any collateral in respect of same or dispose of same;
- c) take any step to enforce any right against the Issuer arising pursuant to the Guarantee or any payment made by the Guarantor thereunder;
- d) claim any set-off or counter-claim against the Issuer nor shall the Guarantor claim or prove in competition with the Security Trustee in the liquidation of the Issuer or benefit or share any payment from or in composition with the Issuer.

4.3 Subject to the overriding provisions of the Prospectus until the Indebtedness has been paid in full the Guarantor further agrees that:

- a) if an Event of Default under the Prospectus occurs, any sums which may thereafter be received by it from the Issuer or any person liable for the Indebtedness shall be held by it on trust exclusively for the Security Trustee and shall be paid to the Security Trustee immediately upon demand in writing;
- b) all rights of relief and subrogation arising in favour of the Guarantor upon a partial payment to the Security Trustee against the Issuer shall be suspended.

#### **5. ADDITIONAL GUARANTEE**

This Guarantee is to be construed as being in addition to and in no way prejudicing any other securities or guarantees which the Security Trustee may now or hereafter hold from or on account of the Issuer and is to be binding on the Guarantor as a continuing Guarantee until full and final settlement of all the Issuer's Indebtedness. Moreover, the remedies provided in this Guarantee are cumulative and are not exclusive of any remedies provided by law.

#### **6. BENEFIT OF THIS GUARANTEE AND NO ASSIGNMENT**

6.1 This Guarantee is to be immediately binding upon the Guarantor for the benefit of the Security Trustee and the liability hereunder is not subject to any conditions as to additional security being received by the Security Trustee or otherwise.

6.2 The Guarantor shall not be entitled to assign or transfer (by novation or otherwise) any of its rights or obligations under this Guarantee.

## **7. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES**

7.1 The Guarantor represents and warrants:-

- a) that it is duly incorporated and validly existing under the laws of Malta and has the power to carry on its business;
- b) that it has power to grant this Guarantee and that this Guarantee is duly authorised and all corporate action has been taken by the Guarantor in accordance with its constitutional document and the laws of its incorporation;
- c) that this Guarantee constitutes and contains valid and legally binding obligations of the Guarantor enforceable in accordance with its terms;
- d) that this Guarantee does not and will not constitute default with respect to or violate any law, rule, regulation, judgment, decree or permit to which the Guarantor is or may be subject; or the Guarantor's constitutional document; or any agreement or other instrument to which the Guarantor is a party or is subject or by which it or any of its property is bound;
- e) that it is in no way engaged in any litigation, arbitration or administrative proceeding of a material nature;
- f) that the obligations binding it under this Guarantee rank at least *pari passu* with all other present and future unsecured indebtedness of the Guarantor with the exception of any obligations which are mandatorily preferred by law;
- g) that it is not in breach of or in default under any agreement relating to indebtedness to which it is a party or by which it may be bound nor has any default occurred in its regard;
- h) that all the information, verbal or otherwise, tendered in connection with the negotiation and preparation of this Guarantee is accurate and true and there has been no omission of any material facts;
- i) that the granting of this Guarantee is in the commercial interest of the Guarantor and that the Guarantor acknowledges that it is deriving commercial benefit therefrom.

7.2 As from the date of this Guarantee, until such time as the Indebtedness is paid in full to the Security Trustee, and for as long as this Guarantee shall remain in force, the Guarantor shall hold true, good and valid all the representations and warranties given under this clause.

## **8. DEMANDS AND PAYMENTS**

8.1 Without prejudice to clause 2.2 above, all the Indebtedness shall be due by the Guarantor under this Guarantee as a debt, certain, liquidated and due on the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) day following the Security Trustee's first written demand to the Guarantor to pay. All demands shall be sent to the address or facsimile number or email address as are stated below as the same may be changed by notice in writing by one party to the other.

8.2 All sums payable by the Guarantor under this Guarantee shall be paid in full to the Security Trustee in the currency in which the Indebtedness is payable:

- a) without any set-off, condition or counterclaim whatsoever; and
- b) free and clear of any deductions or withholdings whatsoever except as may be required by law

or regulation which is binding on the Guarantor.

- 8.3 If any deduction or withholding is required by any law or regulation to be made by the Guarantor, the amount of the payment due from the Guarantor shall be increased to an amount which (after making any deduction or withholding) leaves an amount equal to the payment which would have been due if no deduction or withholding had been required.
- 8.4 The Guarantor shall promptly deliver or procure delivery to the Security Trustee of all receipts issued to it evidencing each deduction or withholding which it has made.

## 9. NOTICES

Every notice, request, demand, letter or other communication hereunder shall be in writing, in the English language, and shall be delivered by hand or by pre-paid post or email at the address or email address of the addressee set out below or as otherwise notified to the sender. Any such notice sent by prepaid post shall be deemed to have been received five (5) days after dispatch and evidence that the notice was properly addressed stamped and put into the post shall be conclusive evidence of posting. Any such notice sent by email, or delivered by hand shall be deemed to have been received on the date on which it is sent or delivered, and failure to receive any confirmation shall not invalidate such notice.

If to the Guarantor:

Address: 72, Mattia Preti Street, Rabat, Ghawdex, VCT2833, Malta  
E-mail address: [management@excel-group.eu](mailto:management@excel-group.eu)  
To the attention: The Chairman of the Board of Directors

If to the Security Trustee:

Address: Level 3, Tower Business Centre, Tower Street, Swatar, Birkirkara BKR4013, Malta  
E-mail address: [trusree@csbgroup.com](mailto:trusree@csbgroup.com); [franklin.cachia@csbgroup.com](mailto:franklin.cachia@csbgroup.com)  
To the attention: Dr. Franklin Cachia

## 10. APPLICABLE LAW AND JURISDICTION

This Guarantee and any non-contractual matters in relation thereto shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Malta.

The parties agree that the Courts of Malta have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any disputes in connection herewith and in connection with any non-contractual matters in relation hereto, and accordingly submit to the jurisdiction of such Courts.

The parties waive any objection to the Maltese Courts on grounds of inconvenient forum or otherwise as regards proceedings in connection herewith and agree that a judgement or order of such a Court shall be conclusive and binding on them and may be enforced against them in the Courts of any other jurisdiction.



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duly authorised, on behalf of **Excel Investments Holdings Limited (Guarantor)**

Handwritten signatures of Dr. Franklin Cachia and Mr. Jean Claude Cardona, written in black ink over a horizontal line.

Dr. Franklin Cachia & Mr. Jean Claude Cardona

duly authorised, on behalf of **CSB Trustees & Fiduciaries Limited** (Security Trustee)