

## **RDIF and ER-Telecom invest in the creation of the leading Russian cloud service based on Linxdatacenter assets**

**Moscow, April 19, 2021** – The Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF, Russia’s sovereign wealth fund) alongside JSC ER-Telecom Holding (Dom.ru and Dom.ru Business trademarks) and Talos Fund I LP, the leading fund from the Middle East specializing in investment in advanced technologies including AI, today announced a joint investment in the creation of a leading autonomous cloud service in Russia based on Linxdatacenter assets.

The investor consortium purchased a 100% stake in Svyaz VSD LLC, the Russian subsidiary of the Netherlands-based Linx Telecommunications Holding BV. The purchase includes the LinxCloud platform and two large data centers in Moscow and St. Petersburg with a total area of 13,400 sq. m, operating in compliance with the highest international quality standards Tier III. The company holds one of the leading positions on the cloud storage and virtual data processing market among independent commercial data centers with own computing infrastructure.

The joint cloud platform will provide the necessary virtual infrastructure to the largest Russian and international enterprises for performing their key tasks, ensuring operational continuity and minimizing business risks. The cloud strategy will concentrate on expansion of the virtual services’ portfolio, particularly solutions using world leading AI technologies, in cooperation with RDIF’s international partners.

**Kirill Dmitriev, CEO of the Russian Direct Investment Fund, said:**

“The acquisition of Linxdatacenter assets together with a strong Russian strategic player and our partner from the Middle East with access to unique technological solutions is aimed at accomplishing an ambitious goal of accelerating the development of Russia's digital infrastructure. The priority for our platform is to develop Russia’s leading cloud service based on advanced AI technologies. Successful implementation of the project will be possible by using RDIF’s experience in implementing high-techprojects, ER-Telecom’s technological support as well as the expertise of the Fund’s international partners.”

**Andrey Kuzyaev, CEO of JSC ER-Telecom Holding, said:**

“Linxdatacenter is a pioneer in the commercial data center industry and has extensive Western managerial experience in the development, maintenance and sale of its services. We see the joint purchase alongside RDIF of Svyaz VSD LLC as an

excellent opportunity to enter the commercial cloud data center market and enhancing the service portfolio we provide for our B2B customers. Over the next two years, we plan to significantly expand the capacity of our existing data centers, and build and increase additional capacity.”

**Heiko H. Koop, CEO of Linx Telecommunications Holding BV**, commented:

“Linxdatacenter began in 2003 as one of the first commercial data centers in Russia. For two decades, Linx has been the first choice data center provider for international and Russian enterprises with a need for premium communication, colocation and cloud services. As a result of the global pandemic, Linxdatacenter has grown exponentially and the owners believe this is the right time to divest. The excellent management team and resources of the buyer’s consortium are a clear ticket to continued success.”

**Olga Sokolova, General Director of Linxdatacenter Russia**, added:

“The investment opens up a new development opportunity for Linxdatacenter in the field of colocation and cloud services, while enabling us to preserve the Company’s achievements over the last 20 years. This includes a strong customer base at enterprise level, presence in two Russian capitals, a multi-vector model of service portfolio development, a cloud strategy focus on connectivity with global providers, and an emphasis on continued improvement of management and operational processes at data centers. With Linxdatacenter being one of the leaders in the Russian DC and cloud market for many years, the interest of such high profile investors and their anticipation of the future evolution of the business is highly justified. By the end of 2020, Linxdatacenter’s cloud platform had recorded 30% business growth. New business partners will help the company to strengthen its position in the market and accelerate its growth, owing to consolidation of technical and financial resources for the Company’s long-term outlook.”

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**Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF)** is Russia's sovereign wealth fund established in 2011 to make equity co-investments, primarily in Russia, alongside reputable international financial and strategic investors. RDIF acts as a catalyst for direct investment in the Russian economy. RDIF’s management company is based in Moscow. Currently, RDIF has experience of the successful joint implementation of more than 80 projects with foreign partners totaling more than RUB2 tn and covering 95% of the regions of the Russian Federation. RDIF portfolio companies employ more than 800,000 people and generate revenues which equate to more than

6% of Russia's GDP. RDIF has established joint strategic partnerships with leading international co-investors from more than 18 countries that total more than \$40 bn. Further information can be found at [www.rdif.ru](http://www.rdif.ru)

**JSC ER-Telecom Holding** is a leading Russian telecom company providing broadband internet access, telecom, digital TV, Wi-Fi access, VPN, LoRaWAN and CCTV services, as well as complex solutions based on industrial IoT technologies.

**Linx Telecommunications Holding BV** was established in 2001 by multinational enterprise Koop Holding Europe BV and a number of private investors. Linx has invested in telecommunication infrastructure, data centers and cloud services in the Baltic region, the Russian Federation and Poland.

**Linxdatacenter** provides cloud and colocation solutions at its TIER III-compliant data centers in Moscow and Saint Petersburg, as well as at partner data centers in Warsaw and Frankfurt. It also offers fast connectivity to global cloud services, such as Amazon Web Services and Google Cloud Platform. The company is certified to provide infrastructure and legal solutions in compliance with personal data legislation (FZ-152). The company's data centers are certified under ISO 27001, ISO 9001, ISO 22301 and PCI DSS standards. The high operational standards at Linxdatacenter are certified by the Uptime Institute's Management & Operations Stamp of Approval.