

"Virtu", Ta' Xbiex Terrace, Ta' Xbiex, XBX 1034 - Malta

#### **COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT**

## Virtu Finance plc

### Update on ferry operations as a result of COVID-19

Date of Announcement Reference 11 March 2020 14/2020

In terms of Chapter 5 of the Listing Rules

#### QUOTE

The Board of Directors of Virtu Finance plc (the "Company") refers to the lockdown imposed by the Italian Government on all regions in Italy, including Sicily, and restrictions on travel to and from Italy and Sicily imposed by the Government of Malta as a result of the outbreak of COVID-19.

Virtu Ferries Limited, a company forming part of the Virtu Maritime Group, and operator of the high-speed passenger/cargo roll-on/roll-off catamaran ferry, the M/V Saint John Paul II (the "Vessel") has been authorised by the Maltese and Italian authorities to operate the Vessel on the Malta-Pozzallo-Malta route as per schedule, albeit limitedly with respect to: registered commercial vehicles and their drivers. On the evening of 10 March, 2020, the Vessel operated a round trip for the carrying of Maltese nationals and holders of a Maltese residency permit who are currently in Italy and who wish to return to Malta, and Italian nationals currently in Malta and who wish to return to Italy.

Virtu Ferries Limited has, since the beginning of this outbreak, given priority to the health and safety of all of its passengers and crew, and has abided by and will continue to abide by all directives issued by the competent authorities in the interest of the general public.

To date, other vessels operated by companies forming part of the Virtu Maritime Group, namely the high-speed craft Maria Dolores currently chartered out for operation on a route between Tarifa, Spain and Tangier Ville, Morocco, and the high-speed passenger/cargo roll-on/roll-off catamaran ferry M/V JEAN DE LA VALETTE currently deployed by the Government of Trinidad & Tobago on the domestic route connecting the main island of Trinidad to the sister island of Tobago, have not had their operations affected by the outbreak of COVID-19 and any ensuing measures taken by the relevant health authorities.



"Virtu", Ta' Xbiex Terrace, Ta' Xbiex, XBX 1034 - Malta

# UNQUOTE

By order of the Board of Directors of Virtu Finance p.l.c.

Malcolm Falzon

COMPANY SECRETARY