

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DESTRIERO CHALLENGE***The Italian yacht still holds the Blue Riband record***

Trieste, August 9, 2017 – Today, 25 years ago, the *Destriero*, the fastest motor yacht in the world, set the record for crossing the Atlantic in 1992. This record is yet unbeaten.

The monohull, built in 1991 in less than one year in the Fincantieri shipyard of Muggiano and Riva Trigoso, sailed 3,106 nautical miles without refueling, from Ambrose Light, New York to Bishop Rock lightship on the Scilly Isles, England, in 58 hours at an average speed of 53 knots (reaching a maximum speed of 66 knots), claiming once more the Blue Riband, awarded in 1933 to the legendary transatlantic liner Rex.

In order to celebrate the feat, on September 5th, 1992 the *Destriero* was also awarded the Virgin Atlantic Trophy by the English business magnate Richard Branson for the fastest trans-Atlantic crossing, as well as the New York Yacht Club Columbus Atlantic Trophy.

At that time, the *Destriero* was the largest unit in light alloy ever built, one of the ships with the highest efficiency, power and technology concentration, a real jewel of the Italian shipbuilding industry. At 67 meters long with a beam of 13 meters and 60,000 HP, the yacht was able to reach average speeds exceeding 60 knots. Record figures, an Italian pride, the result based on a wealth of experience gained by Fincantieri in over 200 years of shipbuilding history, which still allow the Group to build the most beautiful and efficient civil and naval ships.

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Fincantieri is one of the world's largest shipbuilding groups and number one by diversification and innovation. It is leader in cruise ship design and construction and a reference player in all high-tech shipbuilding industry's sectors, from naval to offshore vessels, from high-complexity special vessels and ferries to mega-yachts, ship repairs and conversions, systems and components production and after-sales services.

Headquartered in Trieste (Italy), the Group has built more than 7,000 vessels in over 230 years of maritime history. With more than 19,400 employees, of whom more than 8,200 in Italy, 20 shipyards in 4 continents, today Fincantieri is the leading Western shipbuilder. It has among its clients the major cruise operators, the Italian and the U.S. Navy, in addition to several foreign navies, and it is partner of some of the main European defense companies within supranational programmes.

www.fincantieri.com

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Antonio Autorino

Tel. +39 040 3192473

Mob. +39 335 7859027

antonio.autorino@fincantieri.it

Laura Calzolari

Tel. +39 040 3192527

Mob. +39 334 6587922

laura.calzolari@fincantieri.it

Cristiano Musella

Tel. +39 040 3192225

Mob. +39 366 9254543

cristiano.musella@fincantieri.it

Micaela Longo

Tel. +39 040 3192247

Mob. +39 366 6856280

micaela.longo@fincantieri.it

FINCANTIERI S.p.A. – Investor Relations

Cristiano Pasanisi

Tel. +39 040 3192375

cristiano.pasanisi@fincantieri.it

Matteo David Masi

Tel. +39 040 3192334

MatteoDavid.Masi@fincantieri.it

Alberta Michelazzi

Tel. +39 040 3192497

alberta.michelazzi@fincantieri.it