

FINCANTIERI: THE LSS LOGISTIC SUPPORT UNIT “VULCANO” LAUNCHED IN MUGGIANO

The LSS is the first ship of the Navy renewal plan to touch the sea

Trieste, June 23, 2018 – The launching ceremony of the **LSS** logistic support unit “Vulcano”, took place yesterday at the Muggiano (La Spezia) facility of the Naval Integrated shipyard, in the presence of the **Italian Minister of Defence, Elisabetta Trenta**, who was welcomed by the **CEO of Fincantieri Giuseppe Bono and its Chairman Giampiero Massolo**. The unit was ordered to Fincantieri within the renewal plan of the Italian Navy’s fleet.

The godmother of the ship was Mrs. Maria Teresa Piras, who also was the godmother at the launch of the section of the same unit in Castellammare di Stabia, widow of the lieutenant of vessel Emilio Attramini, who died in the air accident of the Monte Serra.

The ceremony was attended, among others, by the **Chief of Defense, General Claudio Graziano**, and the **Chief of the Navy, Admiral Valter Girardelli**.

The multi-year program for the renewal of the Italian Navy’s fleet foresees the construction, besides the LSS, of one transport and landing unit (LHD or Landing Helicopter Dock) - under construction in this same shipyard with delivery in 2022 - as well as seven Multipurpose Offshore Patrol Ships (PPA), with other three in option. The launch of the first is scheduled in 2019, with delivery in 2021. The following deliveries will take place in 2022, 2023, 2024 (two units), 2025 and 2026.

The fundamental characteristic common to all three classes of ships is their high level of innovation providing them with a considerable degree of efficiency and flexibility in serving different mission profiles. In particular, these are dual use vessels, meaning that they may be used for both standard military purposes and those in favour of the community (as for example for civil protection), and they also have a low environmental impact thanks to a state-of-the-art auxiliary propulsion system generating a low level of pollution emissions (electric engines).

The vessel “Vulcano” will be classified by RINA pursuant international conventions about prevention of pollution regarding the more traditional aspects, like the ones of the MARPOL Convention, as well as those not yet mandatory, as the Hong Kong Convention about ship recycling.

Vessel's characteristics - LSS – Logistic Support Ship

The LSS is a vessel that provides logistics support to the fleet, endowed with hospital and healthcare capabilities thanks to the presence of a fully equipped hospital, complete with operating rooms, radiology and analysis rooms, a dentist's office and hospital rooms that will be capable of hosting up to 17 seriously injured patients. The ship combines capacity to transport and transfer to other transport vessels used for liquids (diesel fuel, jet fuel, fresh water) and solids (emergency spare parts, food and ammunitions) and to perform at sea repairs and maintenance work for other vessels. The defense systems are limited to the capacity of command and control in tactical scenarios, communications and dissuasive, non-lethal defense systems. The vessel is also capable of embarking more complex defence systems and becoming an intelligence and electronic war platform.

- 193 meters long
- speed of about 20 knots
- 200 persons including crew and specialists
- 4 replenishment station abeam and 1 astern
- Capacity to supply drinking water to land
- Capacity to provide electricity to land with 2500 kw of power
- Possibility of embarking up to 8 residential and healthcare modules
- Capacity to perform rescues at sea, through recovery and seabed operations (the ship is equipped with an 30 tons offshore stabilized crane stabilized)
- base for rescue operations through helicopters and special vessels

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The tragedy of the Monte Serra

On March 3, 1977, thirty-eight students of the Naval Academy belonging to the First Class Staff, accompanied by the second lieutenant Emilio Attramini, went to the Pisa airport to make an orientation flight on a four-cabin Lockheed C130 "Hercules", belonging to the 46th Aerobrigata. What originally should have been a training day turned instead into the most serious mourning that has ever struck the institution in its almost 130 years of history. The aircraft, shortly after the

takeoff, crashed on the slopes of the nearby Monte Serra, causing the death of all the personnel on board, including the five crewmen.

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Headquartered in Trieste (Italy), the Group has built more than 7,000 vessels in over 230 years of maritime history. With more than 19,500 employees, of whom more than 8,300 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.

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