

**FINCANTIERI: DRY DOCK WORKS START ON THE FIRST CORVETTE FOR QATAR**

**Trieste, November 27, 2018** – The keel laying ceremony of the first “**Doha**” class corvette ordered to Fincantieri by the Qatari Ministry of Defence within the national naval acquisition program, took place today at Fincantieri’s shipyard in Muggiano (La Spezia).

The ceremony was attended, among others, by **Brig. Mubarak Al Sulaiti, Deputy Chief of the Flotilla**, on behalf of the **Chief of the Navy**, welcomed by **Angelo Fusco, Executive Vice President Naval Vessels Business Unit of Fincantieri**.

The corvette, which will be delivered in 2021, is designed consistent with the RINAMIL rules. She is a flexible type of ship capable of fulfilling different kinds of tasks, from surveillance with sea rescue capacities to being a fighting vessel, being about 107 meters long, 14.70 meters wide, with a maximum speed of 28 knots. The unit is equipped with a combined diesel and diesel plant (CODAD) and is able to accommodate 112 persons on board, of whom 98 of the crew.

Furthermore, the vessel is capable of operating high-speed boats such as RHIB (Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat) through lateral cranes or a hauling ramp located at the far stern. The flight deck and hangar are sized for hosting one NH90 helicopter.

In the awarding of this prestigious contract signed with the Qatari Ministry of Defence in 2016, **Fincantieri has prevailed over other competitors** thanks to a project recognized as the most advanced and innovative of all. This was also achieved based on the experience gained by Fincantieri in the construction of high-tech vessels for some of the most prestigious foreign navies.

The contract, amounting for Fincantieri to **approx. 4 billion euros**, envisages the supply of seven surface vessels, of which four corvettes, one amphibious vessel (LPD - Landing Platform Dock), and two patrol vessels (OPV - Offshore Patrol Vessel) as well as support services in Qatar for further 10 years after the delivery of the vessels.

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

*With over 230 years of history and more than 7,000 vessels built, Fincantieri has always kept its management offices, as well as all the engineering and production skills, in Italy. With over 8,400 employees and a supplier network that employs nearly 50,000 people, Fincantieri has enhanced a fragmented production capacity over several shipyards into a strength, acquiring the widest portfolio of clients and products in the cruise segment. To hold its own in relation to competition and assert itself at global level, Fincantieri has broadened its product portfolio becoming world leader in the sectors in which it operates.*

*With globalization, the Group has around 20 shipyards in 4 continents, over 19,000 employees and is the leading Western shipbuilder. It has among its clients the world’s major cruise operators, the Italian and the US Navy, in addition to several foreign navies, and it is partner of some of the main European defense companies within supranational programs.*

*Fincantieri's business is widely diversified by end markets, geographical exposure and by client base, with revenue mainly generated from cruise ship, naval and offshore vessel construction. Compared with less diversified players, such diversification allows it to mitigate the effects of any fluctuations in demand on the end markets served.*

[www.fincantieri.com](http://www.fincantieri.com)

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**FINCANTIERI S.p.A. – Media Relations**

Antonio Autorino

Tel. +39 040 3192473

Mob. +39 335 7859027

[antonio.autorino@fincantieri.it](mailto:antonio.autorino@fincantieri.it)

Laura Calzolari

Tel. +39 040 3192527

Mob. +39 334 6587922

[laura.calzolari@fincantieri.it](mailto:laura.calzolari@fincantieri.it)

Cristiano Musella

Tel. +39 040 3192225

Mob. +39 366 9254543

[cristiano.musella@fincantieri.it](mailto:cristiano.musella@fincantieri.it)

Micaela Longo

Tel. +39 040 3192247

Mob. +39 366 6856280

[micaela.longo@fincantieri.it](mailto:micaela.longo@fincantieri.it)

Emanuele Macaluso

Tel. +39 040 3192667

Mob. +39 344 2737019

[emanuele.macaluso@fincantieri.it](mailto:emanuele.macaluso@fincantieri.it)

**FINCANTIERI S.p.A. – Investor Relations**

Cristiano Pasanisi

Tel. +39 040 3192375

[cristiano.pasanisi@fincantieri.it](mailto:cristiano.pasanisi@fincantieri.it)

Matteo David Masi

Tel. +39 040 3192334

[MatteoDavid.Masi@fincantieri.it](mailto:MatteoDavid.Masi@fincantieri.it)

Alberta Michelazzi

Tel. +39 040 3192497

[alberta.michelazzi@fincantieri.it](mailto:alberta.michelazzi@fincantieri.it)