

FINCANTIERI: THE MULTIPURPOSE AMPHIBIOUS UNIT “TRIESTE” LAUNCHED IN CASTELLAMMARE DI STABIA

Trieste, May 25, 2019 – The launching ceremony of the multipurpose amphibious unit (LHD or Landing Helicopter Dock) “**Trieste**” took place today at the Fincantieri shipyard in Castellammare di Stabia, in the presence of the **President of the Italian Republic Sergio Mattarella**, welcomed by Fincantieri’s Chairman **Giampiero Massolo** and CEO **Giuseppe Bono**. This multirole and multipurpose amphibious vessel has been designed since the beginning as a flexible, *multi-purpose by design*, modular unit with a low environmental impact. It is a Landing Helicopter Dock (LHD) capable of deploying aircraft and amphibious vehicles and equipment, relying on a flight deck and a floodable basin located on the stern of the ship.

The new unit will be delivered in 2022 and falls within the naval program of the maritime capability of Defence, approved by the Italian Government and Parliament and started in May 2015 (“Naval Act”).

Godmother of the ceremony was Mrs. **Laura Mattarella**, daughter of the Italian President.

The ceremony was also attended, among others, by the Italian **Minister of Economic Development, of Labour and Social Policies and Deputy Prime Minister of Italy Luigi Di Maio** and the Italian **Minister of Defence Elisabetta Trenta**, by the **Governor of Campania Vincenzo De Luca**, by the **Chief of Defence Gen. Enzo Vecciarelli** and the **Chief of Staff of the Italian Navy Adm. Valter Girardelli**.

The unit “Trieste” will be classified by RINA Services pursuant to international conventions for the prevention of pollution regarding traditional aspects - like those addressed by the MARPOL Convention, as well as those not yet mandatory, like the ones covered by the Hong Kong Convention introducing the “Green Passport” concept.

Vessel’s characteristics: LHD - Landing Helicopter Dock

The unit will be approx. 214 meters long with a maximum speed of 25 knots. It will be equipped with a *COmbined Diesel eLectric Or Gas* (CODLOG) propulsion system and an additional electric propulsion system to be used for low speed sailing, in line with the Italian Navy’s environmental policy (“Green Fleet”).

Thanks to her characteristics in terms of construction and weapon systems, the LHD “Trieste” will be able to project – in crisis areas – the landing force of the Italian Navy and support the Defence national capability projection from the sea, as well as to ensure the strategic transport of vehicles, personnel and equipment, and to support the Civil Protection in providing assistance to countries and populations in case of natural disasters, thanks to her capability to provide drinking water, power supply, healthcare and medical support.

The Unit has also been conceived to carry out command and control functions in case of emergencies at sea, evacuation of nationals and humanitarian assistance operations.

With over 1,000 sleeping accommodations, the new LHD will feature a 230-metre long helicopter flight deck, allowing the operation of a battalion consisting of 600 personnel, and a dock-garage for 1,200 linear metres of wheeled and tracked vehicles, both civilian and military.

The floodable dock - 50 metres long and 15 metres wide - will enable the ship to deploy the most technically advanced amphibious equipment and vehicles of EU and NATO Navies.

The different areas of cargo securing are accessible through cranes, stern and side ramps, and cargo handling will be managed by internal ramps and elevators.

A fully equipped hospital will also be available onboard, complete with operating rooms, radiology and analysis rooms, a dentist’s office, and patient rooms capable of hosting 27 seriously injured patients (further admissions are possible through duly equipped container modules).

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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 8,600 employees in Italy 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.

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