



REGIONE LIGURIA

FINCANTIERI

A NEW PROFESSIONAL PROFILE FOR THE SHIPBUILDING SECTOR IN LIGURIA

The technical institutes of higher education course for “foreman for production” stems from the agreement between the Region and the Fincantieri Group

Trieste/Genoa, June 26, 2019 – Pursuant to the agreement signed last year between Fincantieri, the Liguria Region and the trade unions Cgil, Cisl and Uil, aimed at carrying out a series of initiatives to encourage job placement processes, the offer of the courses of the technical institutes of higher education for next autumn is to be extended. In fact, **a new educational pathway meeting the employment needs of the shipbuilding sector** will start in Liguria at *the Accademia della Marina Mercantile* (the Merchant Navy Academy).

The Regional Council, following the proposal of the Councilor Cavo, has approved the scheduling of the post-high school diploma specialization course **“Foreman for production and maintenance of ships and/or related infrastructures”**, developed thanks to Fincantieri proactive push and coordinated by the Regional training Department.

“The goal of the specialization course is to meet employment demands which the shipbuilding segment is casting, taking into consideration the important existing and future workload, as well as the need to oversee the development of innovative systems for the ship product”, said Giovanni Toti, President of the Liguria Region. “In this way supply and demand intersect effectively, with a view to determine positive impacts on employment for the young people in our area, relying on a recruitment forecast for nearly all the attendees of the course”.

In particular, the professional profile to be trained will be a technician specialized in supervising the construction of onboard systems in compliance with production schedules, safety rules, quality standards and budget estimates. In particular, the profile will oversee the stages of outfitting, assembly, and testing of the electrical systems and devices, of the automation systems, air-conditioning systems and others necessary for ship functioning. Such profile will work together with the design and production departments thanks to his in-depth knowledge of the ship's systems. The request was made by Fincantieri, which has openly underlined the need of introducing courses in order to train people to acquire this specific profile. Other companies of the same segment have raised this requirement underlining its urgent need. The course, indeed, provides for an operational partnership with Fincantieri, San Giorgio al Porto, Amico e Co Srl, T.Mariotti S.p.a. and

Tecnomarine, companies which have all expressed an urgent need to find this qualified profile, envisaging a recruitment forecast of at least 70% of the trainees, not ruling out the possibility of building full employment.

*"We maintain and continue to pursue the commitment of this Regional Council to train in order to create employment, by strengthening the higher education offer proposed by the Technical Institutes of Higher Education. These are specialization courses for graduated which already have been successfully implemented in our region, so as to being awarded at national level", commented **Ilaria Cavo, Ligurian Regional Councilor for education and training.** "After a constructive dialogue with the companies of the segment, we believe that the implementation of this new pathway, added to other 17 courses, represents a strategic opportunity to offer a training system of a stable and quality supply chain, to fulfill the needs of the companies and guarantee employment". Cavo concluded: "We strongly believe in the courses of the Technical Institutes of Higher Education. It's now up to the graduates and their families to do the same. We have clear paths, agreements with the companies, as well as high hiring prospects. In July we will start a communication campaign, activated through the European Social Fund, to explain and encourage the choice of these courses. Those who have graduated and want to specialize with a two-year course to find employment cannot avoid to seize this opportunity".*

Giuseppe Bono, CEO of Fincantieri, stated: *"Implementing this course is an important step in our strategy of recruiting highly specialized workforce. We believe that the shipbuilding segment, like every high-tech sector, needs young and highly qualified profiles able to enter the labor market early with a wealth of skills already compliant with the demands of the segment. The market urges it, and this need is even more compelling considering the cruise industry's huge growth". Bono concluded: "I also believe that the technical institutes shaped the backbone of the modern national industry, playing a key part in the training of the middle management, allowing the development of the production system". This is an ever-present requirement and for this reason we welcome the renewed cooperation with the Liguria Region".*

The course, following some administrative steps, is expected to start in autumn. This training initiative is part of a wider cooperation between the Region and Fincantieri supporting employment in the Ligurian area. In the recent past, three pre-employment training courses have been activated for foreman and production supervisors with three more to be started in the coming months between Riva Trigoso, Genoa and La Spezia. Furthermore, three more projects, developed in partnership with leading companies of the Fincantieri supply chain, aimed at training skilled workers, such as welders, pipers and carpenters, were presented, in order to meet the growing need for specialized workforce of the entire production chain of the shipbuilding sector.

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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FINCANTIERI S.p.A. – Media Relations

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

Emanuele Macaluso

Tel. +39 040 3192667

Mob. +39 344 2737019

emanuele.macaluso@fincantieri.it

FINCANTIERI S.p.A. – Investor Relations

Tijana Obradovic

Tel. +39 040 3192409

tijana.obradovic@fincantieri.it

Emanuela Cecilia Salvini

Tel. +39 040 3192614

emanuelacecilia.salvini@fincantieri.it

Marco Pesaresi

Tel. +39 040 3192663

marco.pesaresi2@fincantieri.it

REGIONE LIGURIA

Jessica Nicolini

Tel +39 010 5488745

jessica.nicolini@regione.liguria.it