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FINCANTIERI AND THE ITALIAN SHIPPING ACADEMY TO TRAIN TOGETHER OFFICERS ON CYBERSECURITY

Trieste, February 8, 2021 – Fincantieri, through its subsidiary E-phors, specialized in providing cybersecurity services and products, has recently provided a pivotal training course in partnership with the Italian Shipping Academy, aimed at introducing deck officers to the basics of cybersecurity.

The three-day training course is part of the Academy's project – funded by the European Commission "Common Maritime Education Standards in the West Mediterranean" – and it has also been carried out thanks to the cooperation of Cetena (study centre in the maritime field), a company part of the Fincantieri Group, specialized in research and consultancy in the maritime field.

Today, a cyber attack may create serious operational and financial consequences for an organization. When the target of the attack is the maritime sector, the results could severely jeopardize the safety of the crew, the environmental protection and the economic and financial reliability of sea transport.

Hence, the goal of the course – made up of theory lessons together with practical simulations – was to develop the analytical skills of the participants so to help them recognize and manage some cyber incidents that may happen on the digital infrastructure of ships.

The main topics discussed during the course were the **role and importance of digital systems** of modern ships, **the landscape of cyber threats** affecting on board systems and the potential consequences for staff, **the current regulations** driving cyber discipline for the maritime sector, and **the main attack patterns**. Thanks to the **Full Bridge Simulator** of Cetena, the officers have had the chance to implement safe practices reducing cyber incidents and developed the ability to identify and react in case of cyber incidents impacting the bridge systems.

Daniele Francesco Ali, Chief Information Security Officer of Fincantieri and CEO of E-phors, stated: *"Fincantieri attention to cybersecurity has progressively been intensified in the recent years, as a reaction to the increasing complexity and frequency of cyber-attacks today carried out against strategic national and international companies. The sophistication of cyber threats requires to constantly update corporate defense, as well as the process of preserving IT assets, as an additional element of protecting industrial heritage and market competitiveness. For this reason, the Group is*

determined to further specialize on the analysis and management of cyber risks related to shipbuilding products and more in general to all the maritime field“.

Paola Vidotto, Italian Shipping Academy Foundation General Director, declared: “*Through IMSSEA, our international department which acts in close cooperation with the IMO, we decided to explore the maritime cybersecurity, being aware that it is a subject increasingly essential that requires an advanced and effective response by the crew training point of view. Our innovation, compared to what can be found in the market, is the didactical integration with scenarios replicated inside a simulator. The experimental course obtained good results a we are expecting in the short term a validation by the European Union and, hopefully, by the IMO too, so that we will be able to offer to the maritime community a chance for a training of excellence, other than fully compliant to the standards”.*

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*The **Italian Shipping Academy** has been founded in 2005 with the aim to provide high maritime education and training and it has been recognized as ITS Foundation in 2011, with the denomination of “Fondazione Istituto tecnico superiore per la mobilità sostenibile – Settori trasporti marittimi e pesca”. It is a public institution that releases qualifications recognized by the Italian Ministry of Education in the field of the tertiary education, realizing its activities through public and private financing and with a non-profit setting. The Academy’s mission is to deliver a specialized education aiming to create occupation with high professional and technological contents, on the basis of needs and demands of the companies of the involved sector and in particular in the strategic areas of the maritime economy and logistics. The cooperation with the labour world allows to ensure high occupational levels, with percentages of employees among course attendants higher than 80%. Moreover the Academy develops other activities, with public and private fundings. In 2008 an international department has been inaugurated through IMSSEA (International Maritime Safety Security Environment Academy) following a bilateral agreement between the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the IMO. In 2016 a new operational Academy’s seat opened in Arenzano (Genoa) and in 2017 another one in Lavagna (Genoa). The two seats are the first structures in Italy to be exclusively dedicated to the education of upper technicians and professionals on the on-board hôtellerie and on other specialized figures related to the welcoming on cruise and passenger ships.*

***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, cruise ship interiors solutions, electronic systems and software, infrastructures and maritime constructions as well as 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 its distinctive engineering and production skills, in Italy. With over 9,500 employees and a supplier network that employs nearly 50,000 people in Italy alone, Fincantieri has enhanced a fragmented production capacity over several shipyards into a strength, acquiring the widest portfolio of clients and products in the cruise business. 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.*

The Group now has 18 shipyards operating in four continents, nearly 20,000 employees, and is the leading Western shipbuilder; its clients include the world’s biggest cruise operators and the Italian and the US Navy as well as numerous foreign navies. Fincantieri is also a partner of some of the main European defence companies within supranational programs.

Fincantieri’s business is widely diversified by end markets, geographical exposure and by client base, with revenue generated from cruise ship, naval vessel, Offshore and Specialized Vessel construction and from the supply of solutions for electronic systems and software and for maritime infrastructure and works. 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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