

FINCANTIERI INVESTS IN WSENSE TO DEVELOP INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR THE NAVAL AND SUBMARINE SECTOR

Fincantieri announces that it has formalized its investment in WSense, a deep tech scale-up specialized in underwater monitoring and communication. The transaction involves the subscription of a convertible loan for an initial amount of 2.5 million euros, with the option to increase the investment by a further 2.5 million euros.

The timescales for the conversion into equity will be contingent upon the occurrence of specific conditions typical of similar transactions. The completion of the investment in WSense is subject to the fulfillment of certain conditions agreed upon by the parties, in addition to obtaining the authorizations required for this type of transaction.

The collaboration between the two companies, which was launched by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on December 21, 2023, has already produced tangible results, including the awarding of three tenders issued by the Italian National Center for the Underwater Domain. These projects involve the development and implementation of advanced solutions for underwater communication, harnessing the expertise of the two companies. In addition, Fincantieri and WSense are actively involved in the participation in additional Italian and European tenders aimed at innovation in the underwater sector, as well as in joint commercial proposals.

The investment in WSense, a cutting-edge Italian center of excellence in the development of innovative solutions for wireless networks and underwater monitoring and surveillance systems, is a further building block in the Fincantieri Underwater strategy. It strengthens its position in critical technologies for underwater communication, which is a sector of growing relevance, especially in the context of dual-use applications.

Pierroberto Folgiero, Chief Executive Officer and General Manager of Fincantieri, commented: *“This investment is another step forward in our innovation and digitalization strategy. The WSense technologies open up new possibilities for the monitoring and security of maritime infrastructures and act as key enablers for the advancement of the entire underwater domain. With this transaction, we are confirming our commitment to investing in pioneering solutions that can define the future of shipbuilding and underwater defense, while simultaneously supporting the growth of an Italian center of excellence and reinforcing Fincantieri’s leading role in our country’s industrial landscape.”*

“Fincantieri’s entry into WSense’s capital,” stated **Chiara Petrioli, CEO of WSense,** *“represents a significant acknowledgment of the technological and strategic value of our solutions in the field of underwater communication. This transaction enables us to accelerate our industrial and commercial growth, reinforcing WSense’s position as a key player in a sector that is crucial for the country’s security, sustainability, and competitiveness.”*

With this transaction, Fincantieri is further strengthening its position as a leader in innovation for the maritime and underwater sectors, confirming its desire to invest in cutting-edge

technologies that can ensure competitiveness and security in this ever-evolving industrial landscape.

* * *

Fincantieri is one of the world's leading shipbuilding companies, the only one active in all areas of high-tech shipbuilding. It is a leader in the construction and transformation of cruise, military and offshore vessels in the oil & gas and wind power sectors, as well as in the production of systems and components, after-sales services and ship-furnishing solutions. Thanks to the skills it has developed in the management of complex challenges, the Group has completed a number of world-class infrastructure projects and is a leading player in digital technology, cybersecurity, electronics and advanced systems.

With over 230 years of history and more than 7,000 ships built, Fincantieri maintains its know-how and management centers in Italy, where it employs 11,000 workers and creates around 90,000 jobs, doubling the employment figure globally thanks to a production network of 18 shipyards operating worldwide employing more than 22,000 direct workers.

www.fincantieri.com

FINCANTIERI

Press Office

Tel. +39 040 3192111

press.office@fincantieri.it

Investor Relations

Tel. +39 040 3192111

investor.relations@fincantieri.it

* * *

WSENSE. Based on patented technologies, WSense's solutions leverage multi-frequency acoustic waves and wireless optical technologies, enabling real-time, reliable, and secure underwater wireless communications without impacting the seabed. WSense technologies allow the implementation of an "underwater Wi-Fi" system to connect robotics, sensors, actuators, and professional divers into a unified communication ecosystem, supporting underwater domain control and the protection of critical infrastructure.

Active since 2017, WSense currently has a team of over 60 engineers and researchers—with offices in Italy, Norway, and the United Kingdom, and employees in France and the United Arab Emirates. Its clients include the Italian Ministry of Defense, the Italian Navy, the National Oceanography Centre, the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA), the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (INGV), Terna, AkerBP, A2A, and ENI. WSense also partners with major companies such as Leonardo, Saipem, Fincantieri, and Alcatel Submarine Networks.