FINCANTIERI: VARD SIGNS A NEW CONTRACT WITH DONG FANG OFFSHORE FOR ONE COMMISSIONING **SERVICE OPERATION VESSEL**

Vard, the Norwegian subsidiary of the Fincantieri Group and one of the major global designers and shipbuilders of specialized vessels, has signed a new contract for the design and construction of one Commissioning Service Operation Vessel (CSOV) with Dong Fang Offshore (DFO), a leading provider of offshore support vessels in the Asia-Pacific region. The agreement is a declaration of an option in the contract signed with DFO in April this year for one Offshore Subsea Construction vessel (OSCV). This is the third CSOV Vard will build for DFO, with the first two contracted in May 2024.

The new vessel will be based on the VARD 4 39 design, specifically tailored for DFO, featuring a highly versatile platform for sustainable windfarm support operations, both during service and installation phases. Designed with flexibility to meet future operational demands, the CSOV emphasizes a low environmental footprint with efficient machinery and propulsion setups for high station-keeping capabilities, improved workability, and operational reliability, and has the capability to install a modular fiber optic and power cable repair spread.

The vessel, approximately 102.7 meters long and with a beam of 19.5 meters, will feature a fully electric crane, walk-to-work system, SeaQ Integrated Bridge, Power package and Automation System. The vessel will be equipped with a 1,240-kWh energy storage system for hybrid propulsion, shore connection capabilities, a heat recovery system, and innovative HVAC technologies to reduce environmental impact. It will accommodate 120 people in highstandard cabins.

The vessel will be built, outfitted and commissioned at Vard's shipyard in Vung Tau, Vietnam, scheduled for delivery in Q1 2028.

Pierroberto Folgiero, CEO and Managing Director of Fincantieri, stated: "This agreement underscores our role as a global leader in shipbuilding, increasingly recognized as a key geopolitical lever. Our strategic presence in Vietnam highlights Fincantieri's competitiveness in the Asian market, where we see significant growth potential. The Vard Vung Tau shipyard exemplifies how operational excellence, meticulous planning, and a strong sense of purpose can turn traditional challenges into distinctive strengths, making it a key asset within our global production network."

Fincantieri is one of the world's largest shipbuilding groups, the only one active in all high-tech marine industry sectors. It is leader in the construction and transformation of cruise, naval and oil & gas and wind offshore vessels, as well as in the production of systems and component equipment, after-sales services and marine interiors solutions. Thanks to the expertise developed in the management of complex projects, the Group boasts first-class references in infrastructures and is a reference player in digital technologies and cybersecurity, electronics and advanced systems. With over 230 years of history and more than 7,000 ships built, Fincantieri maintains its know-how, expertise and management centres in Italy, here employing over 11,000 workers and creating around 90,000 jobs, which double worldwide thanks to a production network of 18 shipyards operating worldwide and with over 22,000 employees.

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2 www.fincantieri.com