

## **Fincantieri unveils integrated solutions to advance Qatar's underwater resilience**

Doha, Qatar / Trieste, Italy — December 9, 2025 - Fincantieri today convened government, defense, and industry leaders in Doha for the high-level workshop “***Underwater Innovation Forefront: Submarines, Drones and Dual-Use Integrated Solutions for Sea Defence and Strategic Infrastructures Resilience***”. The event reaffirms Fincantieri's longstanding commitment to supporting Qatar's maritime security and enhancing the resilience of its critical offshore and subsea infrastructure.

This landmark initiative marks a **significant advancement in the strategic industrial cooperation between Fincantieri and Milaha**, the Qatar Navigation Q.P.S.C. (“Milaha”), leading provider of maritime and logistics solutions in the region, with which the event was organized in collaboration. This follows the signing of a **Memorandum of Understanding** aimed at broadening cooperation in maritime services, project execution, and technological integration.

Building on a well-established partnership with the **Qatar Emiri Naval Forces** — which includes the delivery of seven advanced naval vessels built in the Group's yards in Italy — the initiative reflects Fincantieri's ability to translate industrial cooperation into concrete capability development in support of Qatar's sovereign maritime ambitions.

Today's workshop **gathered senior leaders and decision-makers from Qatar's defense, energy, telecommunication, cybersecurity, maritime, and governmental sectors, together with international stakeholders, including the Italian Ambassador to Doha Paolo Toschi, the Italian Navy and Italy's National Cybersecurity Agency (ACN)**. It provided a high-level platform to assess the evolving underwater risk and development opportunities landscape and foster cooperative strategies.

Discussions were led by Fincantieri's experts **Admiral Matteo Bisceglia, Senior Vice President Naval Product Development and Partnering, Gabriele Maria Cafaro, Executive Vice President Underwater, Admiral Dario Giacomini, Senior Vice President Underwater Product Development, and Eugenio Santagata, General Manager Naval Vessels Division**, together with **Fahad Saad Al-Qahtani, Milaha Group CEO, Ambassador Massimo Marotti, Managing Director for Strategy & International Cooperation of the Italian National Cybersecurity Agency, and Rear Admiral Francesco Milazzo, Commander of the Submarines & Underwater Dimension Department of the Italian Navy**. They focused on operational expertise and emerging technologies across the full underwater spectrum — including submarines, unmanned and autonomous systems (AUVs/USVs), underwater drones and ROVs, integrated command-and-control architectures, and dual-use solutions — and on how these capabilities are becoming essential to reinforce national security and ensure the reliability of offshore energy assets, port operations, and other strategic installations.

The workshop underscored that 98% of global internet traffic depends on subsea cables, together with power interconnectors that form the backbone of every nation's connectivity and energy security. In this scenario, **Fincantieri reaffirmed its role as an “orchestrator” of the underwater domain**: a vertically integrated player capable of designing, building, and operating



all the key components of a new underwater ecosystem. **This positioning enables the company to bridge defense requirements with civil and dual-use applications.**

Among the flagship technologies showcased was **DEEP, Fincantieri's proprietary and fully integrated underwater drone system with AI-powered capabilities**, recently validated in a live operational demonstration at the Naval Support and Experimentation Centre (CSSN) in La Spezia, **a unique technology in Europe**. DEEP integrates advanced AUVs swarms, early-warning sensors, LARS solutions, and a dedicated underwater management system to ensure persistent monitoring and timely threat detection in complex maritime environments, as well as maintenance and development.

**Rear Admiral Francesco Milazzo of the Italian Navy** emphasized that the underwater domain is now a decisive arena requiring continuous innovation and synergies. Securing this dimension is vital to safeguard energy and information flows that sustain prosperity and security. In this context, **cooperation between navies, institutions, and industry is key to technological progress and operational superiority**. In this regard, Italy is at the forefront combining **advanced expertise with a vision of interoperability and dual-use solutions, developing a modern command-and-control architecture and multipurpose, multi-mission vehicles** capable of operating from seabed to surface for defense and infrastructure resilience. He also highlighted the key role played by the Italian National Hub for Underwater (PNS - Polo Nazionale della Subacquea), established by the Italian Government in 2023 in La Spezia, as well as the Italian Navy's initiative to create a NATO Center of Excellence for the Underwater Domain, also in La Spezia, within the same premises as the PNS.

**Ambassador Massimo Marotti of the Italian National Cybersecurity Agency** also highlighted the critical role of international cooperation and the partnership between governments and private players in addressing cyber risks that threaten underwater infrastructures.

Fincantieri's positioning builds on its **long-lasting expertise in designing and building advanced submarines, paving the way for a fully integrated underwater technological ecosystem**. It is also further strengthened by key competences brought by **WASS, Remazel Engineering, and IDS** — and joint development activities with SME's having cutting-edge technology content

This consolidated heritage underpins a growth trajectory where Fincantieri's solutions are already **delivering tangible, deployable responses to the evolving requirements of modern maritime nations, such as Qatar.**

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## Fincantieri

Fincantieri is one of the world's largest shipbuilding groups, the only player active in all high complexity marine industry sectors. The Group is a leader in the construction of cruise ships, naval and offshore vessels, and stands out for its extensive experience in the development of underwater solutions, thanks to its integrated industrial structure capable of managing and coordinating all activities related to the commercial, defense, and dual -use sectors. It holds a strong presence in key markets also thanks to the internalization of high value-added, distinctive



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technologies; it is also a leader in sustainable innovation and in the digital transformation of the shipbuilding sector. The company is active in the field of mechatronics, electronics, and digital naval systems, as well as in cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and marine interiors solutions. It also offers a wide range of after-sales services, including logistic support and fleet assistance. With over 230 years of history and more than 7, 000 ships built, Fincantieri is a global player with a production network of 18 shipyards worldwide and over 23,000 employees. It maintains its know-how, expertise and management centers in Italy, where it directly employs over 12,000 workers and creates around 90,000 indirect jobs.

[www.fincantieri.com](http://www.fincantieri.com)

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## About Milaha

The company was established in July 1957 as the first public shareholding company Milaha was established in July 1957 as the first public shareholding company registered in Qatar, with Commercial Registration **(No. 1)**. Milaha owns and operates a diverse fleet of vessels for the offshore oil and gas sector, and for the marine transportation of gas, petroleum products, and containers. It is also involved in providing logistics services, agency services, freight, and warehouse management.

Additionally, Milaha operates a shipyard and has significant real estate and capital market investments including port management.

**The legal entity name listed on Qatar Stock Exchange is “Qatar Navigation Q.P.S.C” (QNNS).**

For more information, please visit the company's website at [www.milaha.com](http://www.milaha.com)

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