

FINCANTIERI: VARD WILL BUILD TWO FURTHER GREEN SHIPS FOR THE OFFSHORE WIND MARKET

Vessels will be hybrid-electric and methanol-ready

Trieste, May 16, 2023 – Vard, one of the major global shipbuilders of specialized vessels, has signed a contract for the design and construction of two hybrid-electric *Commissioning Service Operation Vessels* (CSOVs) – including the option of two more vessels – for UK based Purus Wind, which provides low-carbon maritime energy transportation and infrastructure systems to support the growing offshore wind sector.

Vard and Purus Wind, a subsidiary of Purus Marine, have developed a tailor-made design to get benefits such as a hull optimized for low fuel consumption and resistance, as well as high operability and comfort. The design is prepared for using methanol in future operations and together with the hybrid-electric system, it is possible for the vessels to run emissions-free for periods of time.

The vessels are prepared for charging at sea so they can be connected to the power grid in the wind farm or harbour to charge batteries regularly without having to go ashore. The goal is to power operations with a minimum of additional energy sources to secure environmental benefits. The ships will join the shipowner's fleet in 2Q 2025 and 2Q 2026 respectively. The project is awarded funding by the Norwegian Government's Green Platform Initiative.

Pierroberto Folgiero, Chief Executive Officer of Fincantieri, commented: *"This further order for two vessels, plus two as an option, for the offshore wind sector, represents a very clear confirmation of the solidity of the market and of the technological and industrial leadership whose development will be strengthened in the new industrial plan"*.

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Fincantieri is one of the world's leading shipbuilding groups, the only one active in all areas of high-technology shipbuilding. It is a leader in the construction and conversion of cruise vessels, as well as in the naval and offshore vessels. It operates in the wind, oil & gas, fishing vessel and specialized vessel segments, as well as in the production of mechatronic and electronic marine systems, naval accommodation solutions and the provision of after-sales services such as logistical support and assistance to fleets in service.

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 10,000 workers and creating around 90,000 jobs, which double worldwide thanks to a production network of 18 shipyards operating in four continents and with almost 21,000 employees.

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