

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## PIETRO SALINI: INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT VITAL FOR FOREIGN TRADE GROWTH

May 21, 2015 - "Today it is becoming increasingly clear that there is no global trade without adequate infrastructure development," said Pietro Salini, CEO of Salini Impregilo, speaking at the conference held today in Rome by the Italian Institute for Foreign Trade 'ICE', to present the thirteenth report "Evolution of Foreign Trade by Region and Industry." "The Panama Canal and the Terzo Valico project connecting the Mediterranean to Europe through the port of Genoa are both excellent examples. Another example of a strategic link between the Mediterranean hub and Europe, alternative to the North European system, could be the Strait of Messina Bridge," stated Salini who stressed the important work done by the ICE and other public entities in promoting Italian products and foreign trade.

Salini went on to say, "I'd like to see Italy focus more on its wealth of enterprises, small and large alike, within the framework of a national system capable of consolidating a structural export process."

Salini Impregilo's 110 years of history bear witness to an international commitment that today accounts for 90% of Group revenues, equivalent to 4.2 billion euros in 2014. As Pietro Salini stated, "The company's continued expansion is bolstered today by its legacy of large complex infrastructure projects and by its global dimension, but when we just started exporting it definitely represented a great challenge. Italians have always been adventurous exporters around the world, from small businesses to building great empires. Italy is full of success stories," stressed the CEO of the Group, which has more than 34,500 employees in 50 countries. "Just think of Ethiopia where the system of dams that we are building for the local government is making it a country no longer famous for hunger, but for being a net exporter of electricity. This obviously improves the balance of trade, as well as the living conditions of the local population."

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