

## **PRESS NOTE**

## BRENNER TUNNEL: SALINI IMPREGILO BEGINS WORK UNDER ISARCO RIVER

Milan, July 12, 2016 — A new step towards the construction of the Brenner Base Tunnel has been taken. At an inaugural event attended by local and national officials along with representatives of the companies involved in the project, work began on the southern section of the railway tunnel, starting at Fortezza, Italy, before going under the Isarco River.

The 5.8-kilometre section, part of the entire Brenner tunnel of 55 kilometres that will eventually link Fortezza with Innsbruck in Austria, is being excavated by the Isarco Consortium led by Salini Impregilo with Strabag, Collini Lavori and Consorzio Integra as partners.

The work, valued at about €301 million, should be finished in 70 months, while completion of the entire Brenner tunnel is expected by 2025.

The construction of the southern section is particularly significant for its technical complexity. It will go under the Isarco River with four tunnels at 60 metres each thanks to the use of liquid nitrogen to freeze the earth, rock and detritus between the tunnels and the riverbed, making the ground waterproof.

The passage under the river is only a part of this complex project that was designed with total respect for the environment. It is for this reason that one of the planned auxiliary works involves the opening of a dedicated exit on the Brenner highway so that the transportation of materials is done without hampering local traffic.

Salini Impregilo, along with Strabag, also obtained the Tufles-Pfons Lot worth €377 million, the final section of 37 kilometres that leads to Innsbruck.

Through the Brenner tunnel will travel high-speed passenger trains at speeds of up to 250 kilometres per hour as well as cargo trains, making it a strategic trade link between Italy and the rest of Europe.

Once completed and connected to railway ring in Innsbruck, it will be the longest underground railway in the world at 67 kilometres.

The Brenner Base Tunnel is considered by the European Union as a strategic part of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T), uniting Verona with Munich.

\*\*\*

## Salini Impregilo

Salini Impregilo is a leading global player in the construction of major complex infrastructures. It specializes in the water sector, where it is recognized by the Engineering News-Record as the global leader, as well as railways and metro systems, bridges, roads and motorways, large civil and industrial buildings, and airports. The Group has 110 years of experience on five continents, with design, engineering and construction operations in 50 countries and more than 35,000 employees from over 80 nationalities. Salini Impregilo is a signatory of the United Nations Global Compact and pursues sustainable development objectives to create value for all stakeholders. It assists clients in strategic areas including energy and mobility, helping to drive development and well-being for current and future generations. Its leadership is reflected by projects such as the expansion of the Panama Canal, the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam, the Cityringen metro in Copenhagen, the Red Line North metro in Doha, the Stavros Niarchos cultural



centre in Athens and the high-speed rail link between Genoa and Milan. In 2015, its revenues (including Lane Construction) totalled around €6 billion, with a backlog of over €36 billion. Salini Impregilo Group is headquartered in Italy and is listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (Borsa Italiana: SAL; Reuters: SALI.MI; Bloomberg: SAL.IM). For more information, visit our website at www.salini-impregilo.com and follow us on Twitter @SaliniImpregilo.

## .For additional information:

Head of Corporate Identity & Communication Luigi Vianello Tel. +39 06 6776 26 964 Tel. +39 02 444 22 171

email: <a href="mailto:l.vianello@salini-impregilo.com">l.vianello@salini-impregilo.com</a>