

## **PRESS NOTE**

### **SALINI IMPREGILO OPENS “THE PHARAOH’S VOYAGE” EXHIBIT IN PADOVA ABOUT ABU SIMBEL TEMPLES RESCUE**

MILAN, November 25, 2019 – “It is important to preserve the past in order to safeguard and build the future. This must be done by a collaboration between private companies and public institutions: a partnership to develop public works, to be done today much like it was done 50 years ago,” said Joseph Attias, head of Group Engineering, Development and Concessions at Salini Impregilo, at the inauguration of the exhibit “Il Viaggio del Faraone – Due secoli di presidio veneto a salvaguardia dei Templi” (The Pharaoh’s Voyage: Two Centuries of Veneto Commitment to Safeguarding the Temples) in Padova, Italy on November 23. It is the latest recounting of an operation by a consortium of large international companies including Salini Impregilo that became an example of engineering excellence and international collaboration between the private and public sectors. “An enterprise made possible thanks to the joining of forces, involving the Egyptian government, UNESCO and all the companies that accepted the challenge of supporting progress – which, at the time, was represented by the Aswan Dam, a strategic development for the country – while all the while safeguarding a cultural heritage for the benefit of future generations”.

Organized by the Associazione Gabinetto di Lettura, together with the city of Padova and Salini Impregilo, the exhibit at the Zuckermann Palace was inaugurated in the presence of Andrea Colasio, the city official responsible for culture. It examines the transfer of the Abu Simbel Temples within the context of the Manifestazioni Belzoniane (Belzoni Manifestations), which celebrate the 200th anniversary of the return home of the man who discovered the entrance to the archeological site: the Padova native Giovanni Battista Belzoni. The exhibit is free and runs until January 12.

Visitors will discover the various stages of the project, beginning with the international call for help by UNESCO in 1960 with support from original documents provided by the Associazione Archivio Gazzola and Luigi Rossato, an engineer at Impregilo who was involved in the stone-cutting. There are also documents from Salini Impregilo, recently published in “Nubiana” a book by publisher Rizzoli sponsored by the Group and the Egypt Museum of Turin. Salini Impregilo’s unique archive is the result of an accumulation of documents held by various companies that date back to 1906, the year of the first photo. It has come to house 1.25 million photos organised and digitised by the Group, together with 750 videos that include documentaries by Ermanno Olmi on the construction of dams for the Edison power utility in the first half of the 1900s.

Salini Impregilo has often provided support to the preservation of cultural heritage. It built a culture centre in Athens to house the national library and opera house and a music auditorium in Rome, while in Thessaloniki, it is working alongside archeologists to preserve an import ancient Roma road called the Decumanus Maximus that was discovered during the construction of the city’s first metro line. Such efforts have also been made in Rome during construction of the Line B1, which also uncovered relics of the ancient city.

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*Salini Impregilo is one of the major global players in the construction of large, complex civil infrastructure. For five years it has been ranked No. 1 in the water infrastructure sector by Engineering News-Record (ENR) and as of 2018 has achieved ranking in the Top Ten of the Top Environmental Firms. It is also a leader in the transport infrastructure sector, being involved in major sustainable mobility projects in rail and metro systems around the world. It has successfully built some of the world’s most iconic projects: bridges, roads and motorways, civil and industrial buildings, and airports. The Group has 113 years of engineering experience on five continents, with design, engineering and construction operations in nearly 50 countries and more than 35,000 employees from over 100 nationalities. It is a*



signatory of the United Nations Global Compact as it pursues the sustainable development goals of its clients, from clean water and energy to sustainable mobility to buildings with a low environmental impact. Its expertise is displayed in projects such as the Grand Paris Express metro system, Cityringen in Copenhagen, Sydney Metro Northwest, Red Line North Underground in Doha and Line 3 of the Riyadh Metro. Other projects include the expansion of the Panama Canal, the Rogun hydroelectric dam in Tajikistan, the Anacostia River and Northeast Boundary tunnels in Washington, D.C. and the Al Bayt 2022 World Cup stadium in Qatar. In 2018, new orders totalled €6.0 billion, with a total backlog reaching €33.4 billion. Salini Impregilo Group is headquartered in Italy and is listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (Borsa Italiana: SAL; Reuters: SAL:MI; Bloomberg: SAL:IM).

[More information at www.salini-impregilo.com](http://www.salini-impregilo.com)



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