

## PRESS NOTE

### **MILAN'S NEW M4 METRO LINE: TUNNEL EXCAVATIONS COMPLETED AS TBM REACHES SOLARI STATION**

#### **PHASE TWO: FOCUS ON OPENING FIRST SECTION OF LINE BUILT BY WEBUILD**

*MILAN, September 9, 2020* – The first of two tunnel-boring machines (TBM's) involved in the construction of Milan's M4 metro line reached the end of its journey on the central section of the line today by breaking through the wall of the site of the future Solari underground station. With the second TBM's arrival a few days away, the machines have together excavated 620,000 cubic metres of earth along 9.2 kilometres for the line's two parallel tunnels. The project employed 1,500 people, who were able to work during the COVID-19 lockdown thanks to the extraordinary safety measures deployed on site. Work on this strategic project for sustainable mobility led by the Webuild Group proceeds unabated in order to open the first section of the line between the Linate city airport and Forlanini FS station in the spring of 2021.

Commissioned by the City of Milan, the line is being built by mixed concession operator M4, which will also manage the line in which the city and a group of private partners led by Group are investors.

Attending the breakthrough at the site of the future station were Milan Mayor Giuseppe Sala; Marco Granelli, city councillor in charge of mobility; Webuild General Manager Massimo Ferrari; M4 SpA President Fabio Terragni; and Webuild's Guido Mannella, head of the consortium of builders, CMM4. After the arrival of the second TBM in the coming days, both machines will be dismantled. The rails will then begin to be placed along the floor of the two tunnels, along with the installation of the electric power supply system and computer guidance system.

The excavation work, which reached a monthly production record of 540 metres, operated in a complex geological and geo-technical context. The complex management of 600 vehicle movements per day - 15,000 in a single month - in a densely populated city as well as the process of removing excavated material with a minimum impact on the quality of life of residents and merchants on a project with 56 work stations across the city centre highlights the Group's commitment to reducing pollution during production.

The line will be 15 kilometres long with 21 stations, crossing in a mere 30 minutes the historic centre of the city. It will link the eastern part of the city where the Linate city airport is located with the San Cristoforo FS station to the southwest. Its intermodal connections with other lines will expand the city's network of public transport to improve the environment and Milan more sustainable, taking some 16 million vehicles off the streets every year and reducing CO2 emissions by 30,000 tonnes a year.

Milan's M4 metro line is the latest example of Progetto Italia, the Group's initiative to help restart projects in Italy. Work on the project, begun by Salini Impregilo and Astaldi before they came together to create the Webuild Group, is proceeding in full respect of the deadline set by the client, maintaining a close rapport with the public institutions to guarantee employment on site and along the supply chain.

The Group, which built in record time the Genova San Giorgio Bridge inaugurated in early August, is working on some of the most strategic infrastructure projects in Italy. In addition to the M4 in Milan, it is working on the high-speed railway between Verona and Padua as well as the one between Naples and Bari. It is excavating the Terzo Valico dei Giovi high-speed/high-capacity railway between Genoa and Milan and taking part in the development of the Brennero Base Tunnel. In southern Italy, it is working on the 106 Ionian state highway and the Bicocca-Catenanuova railway in Sicily. It has also assumed a project assigned to Astaldi for the Naples metro system. The Webuild Group employees nearly 11,000 people directly and indirectly in Italy, a number that is set to rise to more than 15,000 by 2022.

\*\*\*\*

*Webuild, the new group born in 2020 from Salini Impregilo, is a leading global player in the construction of large, complex projects for sustainable mobility, clean hydro energy, clean water, green buildings, supporting clients in achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs). The Group is the expression of 114 years of engineering experience applied in 50 countries on five continents with 50,000 direct and indirect employees from more than 100 nationalities. Recognized for five years by Engineering News-Record (ENR) as the world leader in water infrastructure (such as dams, hydraulic tunnels, water and wastewater management, and water treatment and desalination plants), it ranks since 2018 among the top 10 in the environment sector and it is also leader in sustainable mobility (especially metro and rail lines, in addition to roads and bridges). A signatory of the United Nations Global Compact, the Group's expertise is displayed in projects such as the M4 metro line in Milan, Grand Paris Express, Cityringen in Copenhagen, Sydney Metro Northwest, Red Line North Underground in Doha, Line 3 of the Riyadh Metro and the high-speed railways in Italy. Other projects include the new Genoa Bridge and the new Gerald Desmond Bridge in Long Beach, California, the expansion of the Panama Canal, the Snowy 2.0 hydroelectric power station in Australia, 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 2019, new orders totalled €8.1 billion, with a total backlog reaching €36.2 billion. Some 85% of the backlog for construction orders involves projects tied to the sustainable development goals of the United Nations (SDGs), while 60% concerns the reduction of greenhouse emissions. Webuild, subject to direction and coordination by Salini Costruttori SpA, is headquartered in Italy and is listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (Borsa Italiana: WBD; Reuters: WBD.MI; Bloomberg: WBD:IM).*

[More information at www.webuildgroup.com](http://www.webuildgroup.com)



**Contact:**

**Media Relations**

***Carmen Cecchini***

**Tel. +39 346 30 19 009**

**email: [c.cecchini@webuildgroup.com](mailto:c.cecchini@webuildgroup.com)**