



PRESS NOTE

GERALD DESMOND REPLACEMENT BRIDGE BUILT BY WEBUILD JV OPEN TO TRAFFIC IN LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

BRIDGE IS STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE FOR IMPORTS TO U.S.A.

MILAN, October 5, 2020 – The Port of Long Beach in California has received a new piece of strategic infrastructure with the opening to traffic of the Gerald Desmond replacement bridge by Webuild Group, its U.S. subsidiary Lane Construction and joint-venture partners. The \$1.47-billion bridge is the first cable-stayed bridge in California at a length of 2,700 metres (about 8,900 feet) and the second tallest of its kind in the United States with its two towers rising about 160 metres (515 feet) in height.

“If there was a monument to progress, it would be a bridge,” said Webuild Chief Executive Pietro Salini. “We thank the 3,000 people along with the suppliers and other contractors who worked with such commitment despite the difficult months of the COVID-19 pandemic in order to complete the project.”

The bridge, whose construction was done without interrupting vehicle and shipping traffic at the port, replaces the old Gerald Desmond bridge with greater earthquake resiliency and extra lanes to handle truck traffic carrying 15% of the cargo imported into the country by sea. At 205 feet (about 62 metres), it has the highest vertical clearance for cargo ships of any cable-stayed bridge in the country.

The bridge is also a critical access route for commuters between the Port of Long Beach, downtown Long Beach and surrounding communities. Although the Gerald Desmond Bridge was an icon of Long Beach since it was built in 1960, it was no longer able to sustain the heavy traffic. The new bridge will have three lanes in either direction, emergency lanes and bicycle and pedestrian paths.

In the United States, the Group is working to protect the environment, reduce traffic pollution and help cities manage sewage water during heavy rainfall and safeguard rivers and lakes. It is also preparing for the construction of a 379-kilometre high-speed railway that will connect Dallas and Houston in 90 minutes. With a total investment of about \$20 billion, with about \$14 billion for civil works, the sustainable mobility project will bring an economic boost to Texas and create 17,000 direct jobs in six years of construction and more than 20,000 indirect jobs. Among projects concerning water there are the Three Rivers Protection & Overflow Reduction Tunnel (3RPORT) at Fort Wayne, Indiana; the Dugway Storage Tunnel in Cleveland, Ohio; and the Anacostia River Tunnel along with the Northeast Boundary Tunnel (NEBT) in Washington, D.C.

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

Gilles Castonguay

Tel. +39 02 444 22 177

email: gr.castonguay@webuildgroup.com