

PRESS NOTE

GENOVA SAN GIORGIO BRIDGE: ROBOTS AT WORK, 25,000 PHOTOGRAPHS EVERY EIGHT HOURS

Milan, November 16, 2020 – After an initial test run, two hyper-technological robots have gone into action to keep clean and safe the Genova San Giorgio, the recently opened bridge built by the Webuild Group and Fincantieri in the port city of Genoa. The robots, which work as a pair and are installed on either side of the deck, help make the bridge one of the smartest in the country.

“There are two types of robot,” explains Marco Bazzarello, the technologies and plants supervisor who oversees the robots and systems on the bridge on behalf of Webuild. “One is called ‘robot wash’, which cleans the glass panels along the length of the deck, and the solar panels. The other is called ‘robot inspection’, which scans the belly of the bridge to ensure a maximum level of safety.”

The two robots started work with the trial runs after weeks of testing. ‘Robot wash’ uses brushes on the external side of the panels, and brushes and high-pressured air on the internal side. ‘Robot inspection’ can take 25,000 photos every eight hours, photos which are then compared with those taken previously to look for any structural abnormalities.

“The cleaning system developed by the Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia in Genoa reduced to a minimum the amount of work that needs to be done by humans on the bridge,” said Bazzarello. “This has reduced risks to a maximum. It is a feature that we do not see on any other viaduct.”

The two models of robot are part of a complex and more comprehensive technological system that distinguishes the bridge from all others. It includes 250 sensors that monitor the soundness of the structure, a dehumidifying system, solar panels that provide a third of the electricity needs, and a data base that gathers all the information produced in order for it to be analysed.

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 70,000 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)





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