

PRESS NOTE

INNOVATION AND TRANSPARENCY: WEBUILD LAUNCHES QUALIFICATION SYSTEM FOR CONTRACTS TO WORK ON HIGH-SPEED VERONA-PADUA RAILWAY IN ITALY

€850M IN CONTRACTS AVAILABLE FOR ALL SUPPLIERS

MILAN, March 16, 2021 – The construction of the high-speed/high-capacity railway between Verona and Padua that will bolster sustainable mobility in northern Italy is starting to gather pace. This week, a qualification system for suppliers interested in bidding for €850 million worth of contracts goes online. Known in Italian as the “Sistema di Qualificazione per Grandi Appalti”, this system is a new procedure stipulated by European Union directives to select partners for the IRICAV DUE Consortium, the general contractor of the project led by the Webuild Group that is planning and developing the railway. By posting public tenders on the Consortium’s website, this innovative system will bring greater transparency in the selection of suppliers for the development of the railway.

The system will facilitate the pre-selection of suppliers that could be then called upon to participate in a second round of a negotiated or limited selection process. The pre-selection will be conducted following the publication of calls for tender and related rules on the Consortium’s website, the Gazzetta Ufficiale (Official Gazette), and newspapers.

The first functional lot of the railway between Verona and Bivio di Vicenza is valued at about €2.5 billion, part of a combined investment of more than €2.7 billion by Rete Ferroviaria Italiana of Gruppo FS Italiane. It will run for 44.2 kilometres across 13 municipalities. By quadrupling the existing railway, it will improve the quality of the train service and strengthen its links to a European network, helping to reduce the impact on the environment as well as the number of road accidents. Signed in August, the contract foresees the work being completed in 2026.

The investment being made on the entire length of the railway between Verona and Padua is estimated to be €4.8 billion and represents an important link across the country’s northeast. It serves as an example of how infrastructure can bring employment and foster economic revival. About 4,000 direct and indirect jobs are expected to be created.

The project, part of the high-speed/high-capacity railway between Milan and Venice, will belong to the Mediterranean Corridor that will link Spain and Ukraine. One of the strategic trans-European transport corridors (the so-called TEN-T core network), it will connect southwestern European countries with countries to the east. The Corridor will support traffic between Europe and Asia. In Europe, meanwhile, it will handle traffic between the southern and eastern regions. With the addition of the line between Milan and Venice to the national network, 75% of the Italian population will have access to high-speed rail service.

The first functional lot of the railway is one of a number of major projects in Italy being developed by the Group, including the Ionian Highway, Metro C in Roma, M4 metro line in Milan, a metro line in Naples, the Naples-Bari high-speed railway and the Sud-Est Barese di Monopoli-Fasano Hospital.

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 115 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



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