

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **WEBUILD WINS €640 MLN FIUMEFREDDO-TAORMINA/LETOJANNI LOT OF PALERMO-MESSINA-CATANIA HIGH-CAPACITY RAILWAY IN SICILY**

MILAN, June 24, 2021 – The Webuild Group has won another contract in southern Italy that will see it contribute to the doubling of the capacity of Palermo-Catania-Messina high-capacity railway in Sicily. The design-and-build contract for Fiumefreddo-Taormina/Letojanni Functional Lot 1 - a subsection of the Giampileri-Fiumefreddo section of the railway – is worth about €640million, including safety costs.

The contract follows another one valued at €1.003 billion that was recently won by the Group to work on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Functional Lot of the Taormina-Giampileri section of the railway.

Commissioned by Rete Ferroviaria Italiana (Gruppo FS Italiane), Webuild will lead with a 70% stake in a consortium that includes Pizzarotti as partner with the remaining 30%. The lot, which will create 8,000 jobs, concerns work along 15 kilometres of the railway between Messina and Catania, from Fiumefreddo to Taormina/Letojanni. It includes an interconnection at Taormina/Letojanni, the dismantling of installations along the existing line between Fiumefreddo and the link with the historic line. The latest contract will also involve the construction of an underground station at Taormina, an artificial tunnel at Fiumefreddo, three natural tunnels at Calatabiano, Letojanni and Taormina, and two viaducts at Fogliarino torrent and Alcantara viaduct.

The project is part of the Messina-Catania-Palermo railway axis, which in turn belongs to the Scandinavia-Mediterranean corridor of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) sustainable mobility initiative. Once completed, travel between Messina and Catania will be approximately 30 minutes faster, facilitating a service similar to a metro line between Catania and Taormina/Letojanni. The Webuild Group is already working on doubling the capacity of the Bicocca-Catenanuova section of the Palermo-Catania railway that will allow trains to go at speeds of up to 200 kilometres per hour between the Sicily's two main cities.

The project is the latest contribution by the Group to the development of sustainable mobility in Italy, especially in the south of the country. It is a development that the country is pursuing with increased determination with new investments in southern Italy with funds from the Piano Nazionale di Ripresa and Resilienza (National Plan of Recovery and Resilience). Other projects in the south include the third mega lot of the Ionian State Highway, followed by two contracts recently won by the Group for the design and construction of sections along the Naples-Bari high-speed railway (Orsara-Hirpinia worth €1.075 billion and Orsara-Bovino worth €367.2 million). These improvement of the infrastructure network - thanks to Progetto Italia, an initiative to consolidate the construction sector of the country - will benefit the supply chain that works alongside the Group: 7,000 companies on approximately 20 projects run by the Group in Italy, with contracts worth a combined €7.5 billion. They have given these businesses the opportunity to grow and become more competitive in the country and abroad with the construction of iconic projects such as the upcoming high-speed railway mega project in Texas, a final contract that the Group recently signed for \$16 billion.

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*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 70,000 direct and indirect employees from more than 100 nationalities. Recognised 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 Gerald Desmond replacement 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 2020, the Group's total order backlog reached €41.7 billion, with 89% of the backlog of construction orders involving projects that support the SDGs set by the United Nations. 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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