

PRESS NOTE

WEBUILD CEO PIETRO SALINI: MICHELANGELO'S FARNESE BRIDGE SUSPENDED OVER TIBER RIVER A SYMBOL OF HOPE

ENLIGHTENED CLIENTS OF THE RENAISSANCE TEACH IMPORTANCE OF DESIGNING AND BUILDING SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

ROME, July 1, 2021 – “The Webuild Group builds projects that last through time, and this beautiful initiative of the Ponte Farnese over the Tiber (River) – virtually and physically – is, for us, a sign of hope. It allows us to relive the history of the Renaissance that allowed Rome to become a great city, thanks to enlightened clients like Pope Giulio II or Pope Paolo III Farnese, both of whom imagined extraordinary works. Their legacy has travelled across centuries to reach us intact, reminding us today that we must not condemn building. On the contrary, it is necessary to design and build great infrastructure and works of art that have the ability to improve the lives of people,” Pietro Salini, Chief Executive of the Webuild Group, told a news conference presenting the artistic event that will occur in the heart of Rome and on the Tiber River.

The Farnese Bridge, designed by Michelangelo more than 500 years ago but never completed, will be built in a matter of a few days in a sustainable way under the eyes of Rome’s citizens. The Bridge will be done thanks to an exclusive sponsorship from Webuild, the latest in a series of art initiatives being promoted by the French Embassy in Italy to mark the start of restoration work on the Farnese Palace, the seat of the Embassy since 1936.

“The Webuild Group has built 1,000 kilometres of bridges in the world, and we are here today as sponsors because art and culture are like bridges because they create connections that are not always physical. We believe in the value of building collective sustainable works. Just like the Genova-San Giorgio Bridge, which we had the honour to build. It is a symbol of hope that showed the strength of Italians who knew how to respond to an emergency such as the pandemic, highlighting the importance of collaboration,” Salini concluded.

French artist Olivier Grossetête will build the bridge with environmentally sustainable materials over the river between the monumental Sisto and Mazzini bridges. As of July 13, the ephemeral art installation will remain suspended above the waters of the Tiber for five days with the support of three large helium balloons. Residents and tourists will be able to take part in assembling the bridge after taking a series of workshops led by Grossetête after signing up via a dedicated website: www.pontefarnese.org.

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).



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