

**PRESS NOTE**

**WEBUILD: LOAD TESTS COMPLETED ON BRAILA BRIDGE ACROSS THE DANUBE AHEAD OF OPENING  
IN ROMANIA**

**THE SECOND LONGEST SUSPENSION BRIDGE ON CONTINENTAL EUROPE**



*Braila Bridge – Webuild Image Library*

- *Bridge to ease crossing over Danube River for 7,000 vehicles a day, replacing ferries*

*MILAN, June 23 2023* – Romania’s Braila Bridge is fast approaching its inaugural day. Built by Webuild in an international joint-venture, it will be the second longest suspension bridge on continental Europe. Load tests – both static and dynamic – to confirm the structure’s stability have been completed ahead of its inauguration. The first series of tests involved up to 60 trucks for a combined weight of 2,400 tonnes (equal to about 400 elephants) to check the structure’s soundness. Dynamic load testing followed with two trucks crossing the entire bridge at 80 kilometres per hour to test it for vibrations. High-precision instruments were used to monitor in real time the effect of the tests.

The Braila Bridge is the same type of structure as the projected Bridge over the Strait of Messina, which would be longer by more than half. Commissioned by the state Romanian company CNAIR on behalf of Romania’s Ministry of Infrastructure, the bridge is 1,975 metres long with a main deck of 1,120 metres. It will have four lanes, an emergency lane, as well as cycling and pedestrian paths.

An extremely challenging and innovative project, the Braila Bridge was built with Japanese partner IHI Infrastructure Systems Co Ltd. It crosses the Danube River in the Galati-Braila region, drastically reducing crossing times for approximately 7,000 vehicles that have been using a ferry service every day.



The last two years have seen complex – and at times visually spectacular – work. At the beginning of the first year, workers raised and set in place the bridge’s two supporting cables, which were created by the intertwining of more than 18,000 steel fibres (more than 9,000 for each cable). Their combined weight is 6,775 tonnes. Last summer, there was the raising of the bridge’s steel deck, one of the most challenging phases of the construction of the bridge. More than 250 workers and technicians were involved in installing 86 sections of the deck, each weighing 260 tonnes. They developed a specific method to raise and set each one.

Webuild’s track record includes the construction of more than 1,000 kilometres of bridges and viaducts, equivalent to the distance between Paris and Berlin. Among them some of the most challenging projects that have come to represent the Group’s innovative approach to construction, including the Genoa San Giorgio Bridge in Italy, which was completed in a little more than a year, as well as the Third Bridge over the Bosphorus River in Turkey.

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*Webuild is a global leader in the design and construction of large, complex projects in the sectors of sustainable mobility (rail, metro, bridges, roads, ports), hydropower (dams, power plants), water (treatment and desalination plants, wastewater management, irrigation dams) and green buildings (civil and industrial buildings, airports, stadiums, hospitals). It supports clients in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations. The recognised leader in infrastructure for the water sector, it operates in 50 countries, generating 70 percent of its revenues from international markets. It has 83,000 direct and indirect employees from 100 nationalities, and a supply chain of more than 17,500 businesses. In its 117 years of applied engineering on more than 3,200 projects, the Group has built 14,118 kilometres of rail and metro lines, 82,509 kilometres of roads and highways, 1,018 kilometres of bridges and viaducts, 3,396 kilometres of tunnels, and 313 dams and hydropower plants. Projects include the Genoa San Giorgio Bridge, the second Panama Canal, the Lake Mead Third Intake hydraulic project near Las Vegas in the United States, the Airport Line in Perth, Australia and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center in Athens. Projects under construction include the Brenner Base Tunnel, Line 4 of the Milan metro system, the Terzo Valico dei Giovi-Nodo di Genova in Italy, and the North East Link of Melbourne in Australia. In 2022, the Group had revenues of €8.2 billion, total orders worth more than €53 billion, and projects that will help reduce annual CO2 emissions by 25 million tonnes. Webuild, subject to the direction and coordination of Salini Costruttori S.p.A., is headquartered in Italy and is listed on the Milan stock exchange (WBD; WBD.MI; WBD:IM). Since 2021, it is member of the MIB ESG, the index of Italian companies with the best ESG practices.*

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**Contacts:**

**Media Relations**

**Francesca Romana Chiarano**

**Tel. +39 338 247 482**

**email: [f.chiarano@webuildgroup.com](mailto:f.chiarano@webuildgroup.com)**

**International Media Relations**

**Gilles Castonguay**

**Tel. +39 +39 342 682 6321**

**email: [gr.castonguay@webuildgroup.com](mailto:gr.castonguay@webuildgroup.com)**