

PRESS NOTE

**WEBUILD: WORK PROCEEDS ON GENOA'S NEW BREAKWATER
A FIRST IN ITALY: A SATURATION DIVING SYSTEM MADE AVAILABLE FOR DIVERS SEARCHING
FOR UNEXPLODED ORDNANCES**

220 COLUMNS OF GRAVEL INSTALLED TO STABILISE FOUNDATION



- *Eight divers rely on a saturation diving system as they take turns going to the seabed during a 60-day period to clear area of unexploded ordnances*
- *Webuild is the first Italian company to use this system as part of the unexploded ordnances clearance in an area to be developed*
- *Work on seabed proceeds according to schedule*

GENOA, August 1, 2023 – An underwater search for unexploded ordnances along the seabed, up to 50 metres in depth, has begun at the site chosen for Genoa's new breakwater. A first in Italy, Webuild has resorted to divers whose work relies on the use of a saturation diving system. Their search for ordnances will last 60 consecutive days, during which the divers will take turns working on the seabed.

The breakwater is built by the PERGENOVA BREAKWATER, a consortium led by Webuild in partnership with Fincantieri Infrastruttura Opere Marittime, Fincosit and Sidra. Rina is providing project management consulting services. The work has been commissioned by the Western Ligurian Sea Port Authority. For the construction of the breakwater, which will also benefit from financing from the National Plan for Recovery and Resilience (PNRR in Italian), an estimated 1,000 people will be employed, both directly and indirectly.

The search for ordnances, being conducted in coordination with Drafinsub, involves eight divers, who in groups of two are brought down to the seabed inside a submersible decompression chamber to the required depth. Each of the two divers will go out to work for four hours at a time. At the end of the eight-hour shift, they are replaced by another pair of divers. Their work will be coordinated at the surface on a large floating platform on which the saturation diving system will be located. A 1,200 Kw power generator and living quarters for 32 technicians will also be on the platform, allowing them to work throughout the search for ordnances in complete safety. A control room will monitor all the conditions of the submersible decompression chamber and saturation diving system. Work will be carried out 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Work began on July 7 to consolidate the designated area of the seabed proceeds, having already built some 220 of the 70,000 gravel columns that will ensure the stability of the foundation upon which the breakwater will rest. The laying of gravel on the sea floor is also being carried out at full rhythm. Approximately 200,000 tons of material have already been poured from a ship with a 3,600 ton-capacity and two smaller pontoons of approximately 700 tons in total. They transport on average 3,000 tons of gravel per day and have made more than 90 return trips from Piombino to Genoa.

The Genoa's new breakwater is the largest project to be carried out to strengthen the Italian port system. It will protect the port of Genoa from large waves. A unique project in engineering terms, it will measure 6,200 metres in length and replace the existing structure. Its location will be farther out at sea to allow access to the port by ultra large cargo ships, which currently have limited in space to manoeuvre behind the existing breakwater.

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. It has 85,000 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. As of June 30, 2023, the Group had total orders worth €61 billion, with more than 90% of the Group's construction backlog related to projects linked to the advancement of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). 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.

[More information at www.webuildgroup.com](http://www.webuildgroup.com)



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