



PRESS NOTE

WEBUILD CEO PIETRO SALINI: PUBLIC-PRIVATE CHORAL EFFORT TO DESIGN THE ITALY OF THE FORTHCOMING DECADES WITH A LONG-TERM VISION OF GROWTH AND COMPETITIVENESS

STRAIT OF MESSINA BRIDGE A FUNDAMENTAL WORK FOR THE SOUTH OF ITALY AND ITALY AS A WHOLE

WEBUILD INVESTS IN TRAINING TO CREATE THE SECTOR'S FUTURE PROFESSIONALS, THREE ADVANCED TRAINING CENTRES IN ITALY

Rome, January 10, 2024 – "Italy must become a strategic Mediterranean hub that is evermore central for global trade, with infrastructural investments that create new jobs, skills and are capable of attracting new talents. To design the competitive Italy of the next 30 years, we need a choral effort between Italy's public administration, companies, and universities. This is in fact the integrated system that feeds legality, transparency, safety, and development".

These were the words that Webuild CEO Pietro Salini spoke during the "*Palermo/Helsinki: il corridoio con il Ponte sullo Stretto per lo sviluppo sostenibile del Mezzogiorno d'Europa* (Palermo/Helsinki: the corridor with the Strait of Messina Bridge for the sustainable development of Southern Europe) meeting, which took place in Reggio Calabria. The meeting was promoted by the "Ordine degli Ingegneri della Provincia di Reggio Calabria" (Engineer Register of the Province of Reggio Calabria), and the *Università Mediterranea di Reggio Calabria* with the Civil Engineering, Energy, Environment and Materials Department. The event also saw the following people intervening: Italian Minister of Infrastructure and Transport Matteo Salvini; Italian Deputy Minister of Infrastructure and Transport Edoardo Rixi; Calabria Region President Roberto Occhiuto; Stretto di Messina CEO Pietro Ciucci; the Chairman and CEO of *Rete Ferroviaria Italiana*, respectively, Dario Lo Bosco and Gianpiero Strisciuglio; ANAS CEO Aldo Isi; and the following mayors: Giuseppina Caminiti (Villa San Giovanni), Giuseppe Falcomatà (Reggio Calabria), Federico Basile (Messina).

Salini then continued to say that Italy's infrastructural strengthening must begin from the south of the nation. He then also affirmed that "Our ongoing Italian projects have seen the involvement of 10,500 companies that work with us both in Italy and also abroad, and which therefore also expanded their export capacity". "After many years where everything had stopped, now infrastructural investments have also started again in the South of Italy, where Webuild is currently building 19 projects. Just like the high-speed railway, which after the Naples-Bari section will reach Calabria, or the high-capacity rail on the Palermo-Catania-Messina route. Our projects in the South of Italy saw the involvement of 3,900 companies of our supply chain and 4,700 people (direct and indirect personnel), with a total of 16,500 people working in Italy on 31 large infrastructure projects".

A project for the South of Italy that wishes to connect Sicily to the rest of Italy and to Europe: "The Scandinavian-Mediterranean European Corridor that links Helsinki to Palermo is a crucial north-south axis for Europe's economy and it must pass through the Strait of Messina. High-speed rail must be a priority for the South of Italy, with the Strait of Messina Bridge as the natural connection that joins the high-speed railway that reaches Reggio Calabria to Sicily's railway lines. The Strait of Messina Bridge is a work that will serve Italy as a whole, and it in fact represents the greatest engineering project ever to be built and of which Italy will be surely very proud".

Salini then concluded by saying that "If we wish to be competitive in the infrastructural sector, we must first invest in training to create the required skills also for people coming from other sectors. And this is why we created *Cantiere*

Lavoro Italia. Webuild will hire 10,000 people in the next three-years. Of these, 88% will be hired in the South of Italy, where we are creating advanced training centres because we need qualified professionals who must also apply innovative tools and processes during the construction phases. There is a need to attract resources to our sector to support Italy's growth. The Group currently employs 85,000 people (direct and indirect personnel), with an average age of 38 years, and 45% of our resources are under 35", concluded Salini.

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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