

PRESS NOTE

WEBUILD AT TERNI IN ITALY STARTS NEW REGENERATION FACTORY FOR TBMs THAT EXCAVATE TUNNELS IN LARGE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS



- *The factory services, modifies and updates the TBMs of the Webuild Group, to allow to reuse them in new projects*
- *Established new Group company, Webuild Equipment & Machinery - WEM*
- *Webuild activities to optimize investments and reduce operational costs in a circular economy perspective in Italy and globally, carry on*

Milan, May 14, 2024 - Webuild is a global leader when it comes to underground excavations. And now, it has created a factory at Terni, in Italy, to assemble and regenerate TBMs, so that the Group can reduce its CAPEX and operational costs. The new factory represents the last piece of the Group's investment plan in innovation and training to create quality employment in Italy.

TBMs are giant cutting-edge mechanical moles, so to speak, which excavate soil with their cutting-head. But they are also mobile factories: i.e. when they excavate, in fact, they also concomitantly line the tunnel, so that when they have passed, the tunnel is actually completed.

Webuild will have in total 58 TBMs considering those already operating, those being assembled, those that have been ordered and those that will be ordered for planned projects. When these machines have completed the project for which they were built, they need servicing and eventual modifications and must also be technically

updated to be used in new projects and satisfy the new requirements for the latter, also in a circular economic perspective.

This is why Webuild decided to create a TBM regeneration factory at Terni: to service, modify and update the TBMs of the Webuild Group to allow to reuse them in new projects.

The initiative besides extending the lifespan of these TBMs, and reduce all costs linked to these machines, also aims at gaining a know-how that is useful to develop, in an immediately subsequent phase, new technologies that can increase the automation levels of these TBMs to benefit safety, work quality, and operational efficiency.

Interventions on a TBM vary according to the specific need, and can just go from a simple servicing activity to a substantial change with important updates. This is why costs also vary as do the times needed to carry out these interventions that can in fact require from 5 to 9 months.

The commitment in carrying out these maintenance activities on these TBMs with the foundation of WEM (Webuild Equipment & Machinery), stands as a clear reflection of the numerous tunnel boring activities done by the Webuild Group globally, especially in Italy. In fact, solely in Sicily it is currently working on 7 railway projects covering 200 km of railway network, which include 175 km of tunnels and 19 TBMs programmed to work in the construction sites of this Region, with an investment exceeding 400 million euros. The most recent TBM that started to work on the project is that being used in the Sciglio construction site, on the Taormina-Giampilieri section.

Due to these activities, the Group decided to greatly invest in the sector with the related research activities, also from a specialised training perspective, and using simulators that allow training new personnel directly on site. Webuild has built a completely automated factory at Belpasso, Catania, to produce pre-cast concrete segments to be used to line the tunnels of the two lots on the Catania-Messina route, with a second factory near Enna soon to be opened too. The first of its kind in Italy, it will produce a segment every 7 minutes (against the 10 minutes required without total automation).

With its training an employment plan named 'Cantiere Lavoro Italia', the Group has concomitantly decided to provide training programmes to hire the required technical figures, like those that will drive the large TBMs that bore tunnels, thanks to simulators specifically built for the Belpasso training centre near Catania, in Sicily, Italy. The Sicilian training centre adds to the many that Webuild has created in Italy, just like the Novi Ligure one in Piedmont for the Terzo Valico dei Giovi project, which is specifically dedicated to the traditional excavation method and open works, and the one in Campania, which on the contrary specialises in mechanical tunnel excavation and which will soon be opened.

Webuild is a global leader in the design and construction of large, complex projects in the sectors of sustainable mobility, hydropower, water management and production, and green buildings. For many years, the recognized leader in the water sector, also ranking among the Top 10 international players in Australia, Europe and the US, the Group has consolidated experience in 50 countries. In almost 120 years of applied engineering on more than 3,200 projects, the Webuild Group has built 14,140 kilometres of rail and metro lines, 82,533 kilometres of roads and highways, 1,020 kilometres of bridges and viaducts, 3,408 kilometres of tunnels, and 313 dams and hydropower plants. Projects include the Bridge over the Danube River in Braila in Romania, and the Genoa Long Beach International Gateway in California; the expansion of the Panama Canal and the Third Bosphorus Bridge in Turkey; the Kingdom Centre skyscraper in Riyadh in Saudi Arabia, and metro lines in Copenhagen, Paris, Rome, Milan, Doha and Riyadh. Projects under construction include the New Genoa Breakwater, the Brenner Base Tunnel, Line 4 of Milan's metro, and Line C of Rome's metro, the Genoa-Milan high-capacity railway line, the Snowy 2.0 hydroelectric project in Australia, and the Trojena project for NEOM in Saudi Arabia. As of December 31, 2023, the Webuild Group with 87,000 people, achieved €10 billion in total revenues, and a total backlog of €64 billion, with over 90% of its construction



backlog related to projects linked to the advancement of the United Nations 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.wbuildgroup.com](http://www.wbuildgroup.com)



Contacts:

Media Relations

Francesca Romana Chiarano

Tel. +39 338 247 4827

email: f.chiarano@wbuildgroup.com