

**PRESS RELEASE**

**WEBUILD: NEW ROBOTIC ASHLAR FACTORY, THE FIRST IN FRANCE,  
FOR THE TURIN-LYON BASE TUNNEL**

- *The plant, the first of its kind in France and scheduled to start in June, is set to produce 100,000 ashlar segments for the tunnel lining*
- *The factory, the twin of the one operating in Sicily, represents a new initiative by the Group in terms of technological innovation*
- *The Turin-Lyon high-speed railway will form a strategic section of the TEN-T Mediterranean corridor*



*Milan, 21 May 2024* – The new ashlar factory in La Chapelle, France, serving Lot 2 of the Turin-Lyon high-capacity/high-speed railway base tunnel, will come online in June. The tunnel is being constructed by Webuild in a joint venture with the group of companies that won the tender launched by TELT, the public promoter commissioned by Italy and France to build the cross-border section of the Turin-Lyon line. Testing activities are proceeding at the factory, which is intended to produce 100,000 prefabricated ashlar segments to line the tunnels of the line being constructed between Italy and France.

The ashlar segments produced by the plant, each weighing 10 tonnes, are the result of an absolutely innovative production process that both relies on extreme automation and pays the maximum attention to sustainability. The factory is one of the initiatives under the mark of technological innovation developed by the Webuild Group, which also includes Roboplant, the twin ashlar factory inaugurated in Sicily — in Belpasso (Catania) — last November.

Productivity and safety are at the heart of the philosophy that inspired the design of this factory, the first of its kind in France. The very high levels of automation ensure the increase in plant productivity. It takes 10 minutes to produce an ashlar segment in a standard factory, while one will be produced every 5.5 minutes in the La Chapelle factory, ensuring a daily production of 160 items.

The plant covers an area of 50,000 m<sup>2</sup>, including 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> of indoor area, and robotics and automation will be used for all 'heavy' and potentially dangerous operations during the production, curing, handling and initial storage of the segments.

The factory is strategic for realizing Lot 2, which has achieved 12% work progress, carried out jointly with the French group Vinci. The Lot includes the construction of 46 km for the two tunnels on the Turin-Lyon line between the cities of Saint-Martin-la-Porte and Praz, in the Maurienne Valley in France. Excavation activities will lead to the construction of two parallel tunnels.

As part of the project, Webuild is also engaged in developing Lot 5A for preparatory works for the Modane safety site and the construction of 4 ventilation wells in the base tunnel, works preparatory to creating a logistics hub 500 m underground.

TELT is one of the main sections of the Mediterranean corridor TEN-T (Trans-European Transport Network), which will connect South-Western Europe with countries in Central and Eastern Europe. By 2032, the Turin-Lyon link will lead to a reduction in road traffic, guaranteeing the reduction of a million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions each year.

Webuild, with a track record of 14,140 km of railways and subways built worldwide, is engaged in numerous projects that contribute to the development of sustainable mobility. In the Alps, in the heart of Europe, it is also working on the Brenner Base Tunnel that crosses the mountains between Italy and Austria. With a total of 64 km when completed, it will be the longest railway tunnel in the world, forming part of the Scandinavia-Mediterranean TEN-T corridor. In the same corridor, it is also building four sections of the Naples-Bari high-speed line and seven sections of the Palermo-Catania-Messina high-capacity line in Sicily.

\*\*\*

*Webuild è leader globale nella progettazione e realizzazione di grandi infrastrutture complesse, specializzato in opere per mobilità sostenibile, energia idroelettrica, gestione e produzione di acqua ed edifici green. Riconosciuto da diversi anni come prima società al mondo per la realizzazione di infrastrutture nel settore acqua, il Gruppo è tra i 10 Top Player internazionali in Australia, Europa e Stati Uniti, con una presenza consolidata in 50 paesi. In quasi 120 anni di ingegneria applicata a oltre 3.200 progetti realizzati, Webuild vanta un track record che include la realizzazione di 14.140km di ferrovie e metro, 82.533km di strade e autostrade, 1.020km di ponti e viadotti, 3.408km di gallerie, 313 dighe e impianti idroelettrici. Tra i progetti più noti il Ponte sul Danubio a Braila in Romania e il Long Beach International Gateway in California, l'espansione del Canale di Panama, il Terzo Ponte sul Bosforo in Turchia, il grattacielo Kingdom Centre a Riad in Arabia Saudita, linee metropolitane a Copenaghen, Parigi, Roma, Milano, Doha e Riad. Tra i progetti in corso, la Nuova Diga Foranea di Genova, la Galleria di Base del Brennero, la Linea 4 della Metro di Milano e la Linea C della Metro di Roma, la linea ad alta capacità tra Genova e Milano, il progetto idroelettrico Snowy 2.0 in Australia e il progetto Trojena per NEOM in Arabia Saudita. Al 31 dicembre 2023, con 87.000 persone il Gruppo Webuild ha registrato ricavi totali per €10 miliardi, con un backlog complessivo di €64 miliardi e più del 90% del backlog construction relativo a progetti legati all'avanzamento degli obiettivi di sviluppo sostenibile (SDG) delle Nazioni Unite. Soggetta ad attività di direzione e coordinamento da parte di Salini Costruttori S.p.A., Webuild ha sede in Italia ed è quotata presso la Borsa di Milano (WBD; WBD.MI; WBD.IM). Dal 2021, è inclusa nell'indice MIB ESG, dedicato alle blue-chip italiane con le migliori pratiche ESG.*

[Ulteriori informazioni su www.webuildgroup.com](http://www.webuildgroup.com)





**Contatti:**

**Relazioni con i Media**

**Francesca Romana Chiarano**

**Tel. +39 338 247 4827**

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