

GRANDE COSTA D'AVORIO INCIDENT

Naples, 18th July 2023: Grimaldi Deep Sea (a company of the Grimaldi Group), operator of the ro/ro vessel *Grande Costa d'Avorio*, would like to thank the Unified Command and all supporting authorities and agencies who worked closely together following the fire that broke out on board its vessel whilst at berth at the Port of Newark, New Jersey, on the 5th July.

The leadership and actions of the Unified Command, which consisted of the U.S. Coast Guard, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Newark Fire Department, and Gallagher Marine Systems, enabled a swift and safe response.

The Italian-flag *Grande Costa d'Avorio* was completing the loading operations of various rolling units (cars, vans, trucks) when a fire broke out at deck n° 10.

The cause of the fire is currently under investigation by U.S. Authorities and Grimaldi Deep Sea is an active participant in the ongoing investigation. Alongside the investigation by the U.S. authorities, the Grimaldi Group company is launching its own internal investigation to determine if there are any additional findings that may be helpful in ensuring incidents like this do not occur again.

Grimaldi Deep Sea would also like to further extend its heartfelt sympathies to the families and friends of the two firefighters who lost their lives during the incident.

The *Grande Costa d'Avorio* remains in situ on the berth at Newark whilst operations for the removal of any debris onboard continue. Arrangements will then be made to take the vessel to a repair yard.

The vessel, built in 2011, is deployed on the North America-West Africa regular ro/ro service operated by Grimaldi Deep Sea.

For more information

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The Grimaldi Group, headquartered in Naples, operates a fleet of over 130 vessels and employs approximately 17,000 people. Wholly owned by the Grimaldi family, it is a multinational logistics Group specialised in the operation of roll-on/roll-off vessels, car carriers and ferries. It comprises seven shipping companies, namely: Grimaldi Deep Sea, operating in the transport of rolling cargo and container on the Atlantic routes and between the Mediterranean and West Africa; Grimaldi Euromed, specialized in the transport of rolling freight in Europe, in the Motorways of the Sea and in the transport of passengers in the Mediterranean with the Grimaldi Lines brand; Atlantic Container Line, which offers transport services for containers and rolling cargo between North America and North Europe; Malta Motorways of the Sea, shipowning company; Minoan Lines, operating in Greek cabotage for the transport of freight and passengers; Finnlines, operating in freight and passengers transport in the North and Baltic Sea; Trasmed GLE, active in the transport of freight and passengers between mainland Spain and the Balearic Islands.

The maritime connections are the core of an advanced logistics chain, which includes port terminals and road transport companies. The over 20 port terminals owned/operated by the Grimaldi Group are located in 12 countries around the world: Italy, Spain, Germany, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Ireland, Belgium, Egypt, Cameroon, Nigeria, Benin. Most of these terminals are fitted with Pre-Delivery Inspection (PDI) facilities, warehouses and workshops.