

THE GRIMALDI GROUP STRENGTHENS ITS MARITIME CONNECTIONS BETWEEN ITALY AND TURKEY

Starting from 14 September, the company will deploy two ro-ro vessels on the new regular service between Trieste and Ambarli (Istanbul), with two weekly departures from each port.

Naples, 2 September 2024: The extensive network of motorways of the sea offered by the Grimaldi Group in the Mediterranean is expanding with a new service dedicated to the transport of rolling cargo between Italy and Turkey: starting from 14 September, a new direct connection between Trieste and Ambarli, just a few kilometres from Istanbul, will be available, with two weekly departures from each port.

The new service will be operated by *Eco Mediterranea* and *Eco Malta*, the most environmentally friendly ro-ro vessels in the world. These hybrid ships, part of the innovative “GG5G” class, can effectively halve CO₂ emissions per unit of transported cargo compared to the previous generation of ro-ro ships. In addition, emissions are cut to zero during port operations: when they are at berth, *Eco Mediterranea* and *Eco Malta* use the electricity stored in mega lithium batteries which are recharged during navigation thanks to shaft generators and 350 m² of solar panels installed on board, thus reaching the “Zero Emission in Port®” target.

In about 50 years of presence in Turkey, the Grimaldi Group has consistently expanded and enhanced its services dedicated to the country, connecting its main ports to the rest of the world through its extensive global network.

Today, with the new direct Trieste-Ambarli connection, the Grimaldi Group is responding to the growing demand for high-quality maritime transport services between Italy and Turkey from its clients, notably some of the world’s leading manufacturers of automobiles and industrial vehicles, such as BMW, Land Rover, Mercedes-Benz, DAF, Scania, Stellantis, Kia, and Hyundai.

In fact, the new direct line between Italy and Turkey represents a regular and reliable transport solution between two strategically located ports: Trieste serves as a natural gateway not only for Northeastern Italy but for all Central Europe, while Ambarli provides a privileged access point to the Istanbul area and the entire economic district of Turkey. Additionally, by combining the new service with other maritime connections within the vast Grimaldi network, Turkish companies can export their products to Spain, Greece, Malta, Tunisia, Morocco, and Northern European countries on the Baltic Sea.

*“Our group is a pioneer in the motorways of the sea and reaffirms its position as the leading player in this market, with systematic and significant investments in the quality and quantity of services offered to our customers,” commented Grimaldi Group Managing Director **Emanuele Grimaldi**. “In particular, with our new Trieste-Ambarli regular ro-ro service, we will strengthen the connections between Italy — and, more broadly, Central Europe — and Turkey, supporting the growing trade relations between operators in these regions. To do this best, we will deploy the Eco Mediterranea and Eco Malta: these ships have extraordinary features that have revolutionized short-sea shipping. We are proud to enhance our offering for the transport of rolling cargo in the Mediterranean with a new service that will stand out for its efficiency and sustainability, in true Grimaldi style.”*

For more information:

Grimaldi Group – External Relations: Paul Kyprianou Ph: +39 081 496246; Mob: +39 3204076539; Email: kyprianou.paul@grimaldi.napoli.it

The Grimaldi Group, headquartered in Naples, operates a fleet of over 130 vessels and employs approximately 18,000 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, whose vessels connect Malta to the main ports in the Mediterranean; 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; Tramed 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 and terminals owned/operated by the Grimaldi Group are located in 13 countries around the world: Italy, Spain, Greece, 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.

P R E S S R E L E A S E