

## GRIMALDI EXTENDS TO ZEEBRUGGE ITS FREIGHT LINK BETWEEN BELGIUM AND IRELAND

*The port will be included in the twice-weekly service which has been connecting the ports of Antwerp and Cork since May*

*Naples, 23 July 2021:* A few weeks after its launch, the Grimaldi Group enriches its ro-ro feeder service between Belgium and Ireland with a new call in Zeebrugge.

As from next Saturday 24 July, thanks to its new schedule, the service will offer two departures a week from the port of Zeebrugge and one from that of Antwerp with destination Cork and vice versa.

In the port of Zeebrugge, the Grimaldi Group will call at the terminal of P&O Ferries, and the cooperation with this shipping company will be extended to commercial activity as well. Thanks to the new call in Zeebrugge, even more efficient freight flows will be guaranteed, with even more competitive, safe and eco-sustainable connections compared to the UK land bridge.

Besides Zeebrugge, the port of Antwerp will continue to be served. This is the Grimaldi Group's main hub in Northern Europe, from where freight can be transhipped to reach the over 140 ports included in the network of connections offered by the Neapolitan shipping company.

The vessel deployed on the Zeebrugge-Antwerp-Cork service is the Italian-flagged ro-ro unit ***Eurocargo Bari***, which has a length of 200 meters, a width of 26.5 meters, a gross tonnage of 32,632 tonnes and a service speed of 23 knots. Thanks to her hoistable decks, she can transport 3,850 linear meters of rolling freight and 200 cars.

The *Eurocargo Bari* is a modern, eco-friendly ro-ro ship that will significantly improve the carbon footprint of freight flows between Ireland and the European Continent. Furthermore, with both Antwerp and Zeebrugge being strategically located and easily accessible from production sites in Belgium, the Netherlands, Northern France and Germany, the service will generate even greater environmental benefits, as trucks and trailers will cover shorter distances by road.

"The addition of the port of Zeebrugge to the Grimaldi service network takes place at a historic moment for the Northern European economy," said the Neapolitan Group's Managing Director **Emanuele Grimaldi**. "We have decided to further optimize trades between the Continent and Ireland, offering our industrial customers a double choice for loading and improving transit time, in order to strengthen the Antwerp-Zeebrugge port axis as a logistics, maritime and industrial hub."

For more information:

**Grimaldi Group** – External Relations: Paul Kyprianou Ph: 081/496246; Mob: 3204076539; Email: [kyprianou.paul@grimaldi.napoli.it](mailto:kyprianou.paul@grimaldi.napoli.it)

---

*The Grimaldi Group, headquartered in Naples, operates a fleet of over 130 vessels and employs approximately 16,000 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 six 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.*

*The maritime connections are the core of an advanced logistics chain, which includes port terminals and road transport companies. The 22 port terminals owned/operated by the Grimaldi Group are located in 12 countries around the world: Italy (Salerno, Monfalcone, Civitavecchia, Catania, Gioia Tauro, Savona Palermo & Livorno), Spain (Barcelona, Valencia and Sagunto), Germany (Hamburg), Sweden (Wallhamn), Finland (Turku & Helsinki), Denmark (Esbjerg), Ireland (Cork), Belgium (Antwerp), Egypt (Alexandria), Cameroon (Douala), Nigeria (Lagos), Benin (Cotonou). Most of these terminals are fitted with Pre-Delivery Inspection (PDI) facilities, warehouses and workshops.*