



Grimaldi inaugurates its new terminal in the Port of Barcelona

Starting from today, Grimaldi Terminal Barcelona is the new headquarter of the Italian shipping company in the port of the Catalan capital. The facility, located at Muelle Costa, has involved an investment of 20 million euros.

Barcelona, 1st July 2013. The Minister of Development, Ana Pastor, the councilor for Enterprise and Employment of the Generalitat de Catalunya, Felip Puig, the councilor for the Territory and Sustainability, Santi Vila, the mayor of Barcelona, Xavier Trias, the Cardinal and Archbishop of Barcelona Lluís Martínez Sistach and the president of the Barcelona Port Authority, Sixte Cambra, among other authorities, participated today, with the Grimaldi Group's Managing Director Emanuele Grimaldi, to the opening ceremony of the new ferry terminal in the port of the Catalan capital. Thanks to this huge investment, the Grimaldi Group consolidates its commitment to strengthening the role of Barcelona as a strategic hub for Short Sea Shipping in the Mediterranean.

The new terminal, designed by the architect Yannic Levêque of the company IDOM, has a total surface of 63,000 square metres. A three-level building with a total surface of 3,750 square metres is dedicated to offices, a shopping area, a restaurant and a conference room. The passenger terminal is able to handle 1,800 passengers boarding and 1,800 disembarking at the same time, also thanks to a footbridge with three fingers for the access of passengers from the terminal directly into the ships.

During her speech, the Minister Ana Pastor highlighted how "the investment of Grimaldi will bring more wealth, more employment and better infrastructures especially for the citizens," stressing that "the Ministry is actively working to reduce port charges and so that thanks to Grimaldi the city of Barcelona will be opened to the port and the port to the city. "

The Grimaldi Group has been awarded a 15-year concession renewable for other 7,5 years for the new terminal "Muelle Costa" at the port of Barcelona. "This investment shows the strategic importance that the port of Barcelona covers in the network of Motorways of the Sea that our Group has been developing in recent years in the Mediterranean" said the shipowner Emanuele Grimaldi. "Our willingness is to offer increasingly high standards of service in order to satisfy the needs of our international clientele" concluded Emanuele Grimaldi.

The Port of Barcelona, meanwhile, had supported for years the role of Short Sea Shipping as a model of efficient and sustainable transport. Sixte Chambrà underlined that this commitment "allowed Barcelona to become the leading port of short sea shipping in Spain as well as one of the most important ports in southern Europe with high quality maritime connections as the ones operated by Grimaldi".

Grimaldi Lines in Barcelona

The port of Barcelona is served by the Grimaldi Group with an extensive network of maritime services utilising a modern fleet of cruise ferries and fast ro/pax ferries dedicated to the transport of passengers and freight. The Group links the Catalan capital on a daily basis with Civitavecchia (the port of Rome) as well as with Porto Torres (Sardinia) in spring and summer time. Barcelona is also linked four times a week with Livorno (Tuscany), and weekly with the Moroccan port of Tangier.

External Relations Dept.

Paul Kyprianou – Tel. +39 081 496 246 - kyprianou.paul@grimaldi.napoli.it

Press Grimaldi España

Marco Bozzer - Tel. +34 609 290 453 – mb@marcobozzer.com