

THE GRIMALDI GROUP ADHERES TO THE “SAILS” CHARTER

It is the first Italian signatory of the declaration, confirming its pioneering commitment to the protection of the environment

Naples, 27 August 2019 – The Grimaldi Group has confirmed, once again, its willingness to contribute to the protection and enhancement of the marine environment by adhering to the “SAILS” (Sustainable Actions for Innovative and Low-impact Shipping) charter. This declaration allows companies operating in the sea transport sector to formalize and pursue their pioneering commitments to protect our planet and its people.

The initiative was launched last July by the French Ministry for Ecological and Inclusive Transition, with the support of Armateurs de France (France’s Shipping Association), 10 members of which have already signed the document.

The Grimaldi Group is the first Italian shipping company to have signed the charter, thus undertaking, in addition to its regulatory obligations, to implement specific actions such as the decrease of atmospheric pollutant and greenhouse gas emissions, the reduction of the underwater noise impact of ships, the optimization of ships energy performance, the fight against invasive species, the protection of cetaceans.

“We have always deemed essential to promote and adopt good practices in maritime transport for the protection of the marine and coastal environment”, commented Gianluca Grimaldi, President of the Grimaldi Group. “This last initiative fits in and strengthens our group’s green commitment, which in recent years has translated in significant investments aimed at reducing harmful emissions from its operations”, concluded Gianluca Grimaldi.

In fact, over the last years the Neapolitan Group has implemented important green retrofit programs for its already operational fleet. Moreover, 12 state-of-the-art greenships will join the Grimaldi fleet in 2020-2022: the new “Grimaldi Green 5th Generation” (GG5G) units will be the first examples of a new series of hybrid ro/ro vessels, which will use fossil fuel during navigation and electricity while in port, thus guaranteeing “zero emissions in port”.

Green investments have involved not only the fleet but also terminals of the Grimaldi Group, where solar panels and wind turbines will be installed. Moreover, the Grimaldi Group and its sister company Valencia Terminal Europa (VTE) have recently joined the European project “H2PORTS - Implementing Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Technologies in Ports”, whose main aim is to provide efficient solutions that will facilitate a rapid transition from a fossil fuel-based to a low-carbon, zero-emissions industry.

Finally, the Group acts proactively to improve the industry green records not only individually but also in consortia with other top players and institutions in the maritime field. As a member of the International Chamber of Shipping, the Grimaldi Group accepted to pursue the goal of halving its CO₂ total emissions by 2050, and is already on its way to reach it. Furthermore, as a founding member of the Clean Shipping Alliance, the Group is actively committed to supporting the timely implementation of the new IMO regulations on sulphur emissions.

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***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.*