



PRESTIGIOUS RECOGNITION FOR IGNAZIO MESSINA & C. S.P.A., THE FIRST SHIPPING COMPANY TO OBTAIN GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SAFETY CERTIFICATION

Genova, 3 February 2011 – The shipping company Ignazio Messina & C. S.p.A. is the first Italian shipping Group, with an integrated logistics system, to attain Environmental (ISO 14001) and Health and Safety (OHSAS 18001) certification for all its activities.

This considerable achievement is the culmination of a long process of intense activity aimed at preventing industrial accidents as well as environmental pollution, which the company's top management have pursued with determination and perseverance.

The process began in 2001 when the company obtained its first Occupational Health and Safety Certificate for the Nino Ronco Terminal in the port of Genova. An initiative which, at the time, represented a real cultural evolution towards transparency and the desire to provide and operate in total safety. Today, the end of this process, which in the meantime Ignazio Messina & C.S.p.A. decided to extend to the Group's complex activities, has resulted in a new achievement for the maritime sector.

With its ninety years of history and over a thousand employees, Ignazio Messina & C. S.p.A. has implemented an integrated Environmental, Occupational Health and Safety Management System in compliance with the international voluntary standards ISO 14001/2004 and BS OHSAS 18001/2007, Ronco port terminal and to the administrative and commercial offices of the company's headquarters in Genova and of the local offices situated throughout Italy.

Implementation of an integrated Environmental and Safety Management System and its subsequent certification enables the company to activate a process of constant self-check relating to its company performance and leads, through a dynamic approach to the problems identified, to continuous improvement in the conditions recorded and to a new definition of the objectives, following a review of the results obtained, thus increasing the company's credibility towards clients, institutional bodies and the local community.

The advantages associated with Environmental and Safety certification can be summarised as follows:

- promotion of industrial accident prevention, search for continuous environmental performance improvement and protection of the health and safety of the employees, third parties and the community;
- reduced environmental risks the company may encounter in carrying out its activities;
- reduced management costs linked to the prevention of undesired events, such as industrial accidents and environmental impacts, both of which entail high economic and social costs;
- more effective management of the mandatory legal requirements in the health, safety and environmental fields;
- the company's credibility and visibility are guaranteed by voluntary certification, issued by a certification body accredited in accordance with international standards.