



RINA AND GRIMALDI CREATE SIS-TEMA

The 22.9 million Euro research project for an integrated "land/sea" system for passengers and freight which will remove the bottlenecks between the last mile at sea and the first mile on land is under way

Genova / Napoli, 2 February 2009 - The industrial innovation project SIS-TEMA (secure integrated land-sea system), for the creation of a maritime technological platform aimed at radically changing freight transport methods and time required, by removing many of the bottlenecks which slow down efficiency during the transition from sea to land and vice versa was launched today on board the Cruise Ferry *Cruise Barcelona*, Grimaldi Group, moored in the port of Civitavecchia.

Co-financed by the Ministry for Economic Development and part of "Industria 2015", the industrial policy plan which establishes the strategies for the development and competitiveness of the future Italian production system, the purpose of the SIS-TEMA project is technological innovation aimed at improving the efficiency of the maritime hubs and competitiveness of the technology producers and logistics operators through the philosophy of "sustainable mobility".

SIS-TEMA is the outcome of a working group consisting of RINA and the Grimaldi Group, who identified the technological innovation priorities for the activities carried out "between the *last mile at sea and the first mile on land*". The overall investment for the project is 22.9 million Euro, 10.3 million of which coming from the Ministry for Economic Development. The project will be completed within 3 years.

From a practical point of view, the project is aimed at the development of prototype operational and IT systems integrated in a Totem. This will consist of 5 subsystems with 23 innovative components intended to resolve the discontinuities between the ship/port interface. The expected results are thus quicker ship loading/unloading operations, quicker fulfilment of bureaucratic requirements, better exchange of information and supply of services to users to facilitate administrative, customs, health and security management.

RINA and the Grimaldi Group, who have been collaborating since 1995 in research and development, have put together a team of 21 partner companies coordinated by RINA and 15 end users headed by the Grimaldi Group. The technological and industrial partners are: Ansaldo Segnalamento Ferroviario (Finmeccanica Group); Cetena (Fincantieri Group); Centro ricerche Fiat; Magneti Marelli Sistemi Elettronici; La Spezia container Terminal; Navalimpianti; IB Informatica; ISIR Impianti; Nethun; TTS Marine; Si.TE.L - Sistema Telematico Livornese; Sitep Italia; Gem elettronica; Optronitalia; ITS - Servizi Marittimi e Satellitari; T Bridge; TP; Wilson Walton International; Smid Technology; Università Parthenope di Napoli.

Leading Italian shipping groups and most of the port authorities are among the end users. They have a strategic role to play: to identify needs and test the prototypes developed by the project in the field. Their direct involvement will enable products to be made which fully meet day to day operating needs and considerable improvements to be made thanks to new technological solutions.

"We are proud to coordinate a project we believe to be fundamental for the competitiveness of the nation" - said Mario Dogliani, Head of Corporate Research at RINA spa "RINA has made its experience and competency in international rules available to the team of partners to coordinate the activities necessary to attain the project and final certification objectives".

"We believe that the results of the SIS-TEMA project will increase the overall competitiveness of the Motorways of the Sea and of the whole Italian intermodal system and therefore of the nation - pointed out Giancarlo Coletta, responsible for the project on behalf of the Grimaldi Group - for this reason we are proud to have promoted it and to play an active role during the development phase. We expect to have the prototypes on board our ships within two years".

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