

# Bit Market Services

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Diffusione presunta

Oggetto : FINCANTIERI Vard finalizes the order for 4  
ships for Ponant

*Testo del comunicato*

Vedi allegato.

**FINCANTIERI: VARD FINALIZES THE ORDER FOR 4 SHIPS FOR PONANT**

**Trieste, August 11, 2016** – The press release issued by Vard Holdings Limited (“VARD”) is here attached.

VARD is 55.63% controlled by Fincantieri which fully consolidates its financial results.

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*Fincantieri is one of the world's largest shipbuilding groups and number one by diversification and innovation. It is leader in cruise ship design and construction and a reference player in all high-tech shipbuilding industry's sectors, from naval to offshore vessels, from high-complexity special vessels and ferries to mega-yachts, ship repairs and conversions, systems and components production and after-sales services.*

*Headquartered in Trieste (Italy), the Group has built more than 7,000 vessels in over 230 years of maritime history. With almost 19,000 employees, of whom more than 7,800 in Italy, 20 shipyards in 4 continents, today Fincantieri is the leading Western shipbuilder. It has among its clients the major cruise operators, the Italian and the U.S. Navy, in addition to several foreign navies, and it is partner of some of the main European defense companies within supranational programmes.*

[www.fincantieri.com](http://www.fincantieri.com)

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For Immediate Release

## VARD CONFIRMS CONTRACTS WITH PONANT

**Singapore, 12 August 2016 – Vard Holdings Limited (“VARD”), one of the major global designers and shipbuilders of offshore and specialized vessels, is pleased to announce that contracts for four luxury expedition cruise vessels with French cruise company PONANT have been confirmed.**

A Letter of Intent (“LoI”) with respect to the contracts had been announced on 16 March 2016, subject to several conditions being met, including satisfactory financing. At the end of June, VARD and PONANT had entered into shipbuilding contracts. All conditions have now been fulfilled and the contracts have become effective.

The ice-class expedition cruise vessels will be approximately 10,000 gross tons, about 131 metres long, 18 metres wide and will have a cruise speed of 15 knots. Each vessel can accommodate 180 passengers (92 cabins) and a crew of 110. The vessels will be arranged with high class of luxury facilities on board, fulfilling the highest demands for environmentally friendly and safe operations.

The hulls will be built at Vard Tulcea in Romania. Delivery is scheduled from Vard Sjøviknes in Norway in the period summer 2018 to summer 2019.

PONANT, a subsidiary of ARTEMIS Group and headquartered in Marseille, France, was founded in 1988 by Jean-Emmanuel Sauvée and a dozen Merchant Navy officers. Today the company is a reference for a new style of high-end cruises, a unique concept for sea travel that combines exceptional itineraries with five-star amenities on small capacity luxury ships. Currently they operate a fleet of five vessels. PONANT is the only French-flag cruise line, and world number one for polar cruises. [www.ponant.com](http://www.ponant.com)

– Ends –

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**Vard Holdings Limited**

Six Battery Road #10-01, Singapore 049909

Company Reg. Number: 201012504K

Visiting address:

**Vard Holdings Limited**

c/o Vard Group AS, Skansekaia 2, NO-6002 Ålesund, Norway



**PONANT EXPLORER SERIES**



**VARD 6 08**

Overall length: 131 m | Breadth approx. 18 m | Luxury Expedition Cruise Vessel

For further information please contact:

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**About VARD**

Vard Holdings Limited (“VARD”), together with its subsidiaries (the “Group”), is one of the major global designers and shipbuilders of offshore and specialized vessels. Headquartered in Norway and with approx. 10,000 employees, VARD operates nine strategically located shipbuilding facilities, including five in Norway, two in Romania, one in Brazil and one in Vietnam. Through its specialized subsidiaries, VARD develops power and automation systems, deck handling equipment, and vessel accommodation solutions, and provides design and engineering services to the global maritime industry.

VARD’s long shipbuilding traditions, cutting-edge innovation and technology coupled with its global operations ensure access to the fastest growing oil exploration markets. The Group’s expertise and track record in constructing complex and highly customized offshore and specialized vessels have earned it recognition from industry players and enabled it to build strong relationships with its customers.

VARD was listed on the Main Board of the Singapore Exchange on 12 November 2010. Majority shareholder Fincantieri Oil & Gas S.p.A., a wholly owned subsidiary of FINCANTIERI S.p.A., owns 55.63% in the Group. Headquartered in Trieste, Italy, FINCANTIERI is one of the world’s largest shipbuilding groups and has, over its 200 years of maritime history, built more than 7,000 vessels.

[www.vard.com](http://www.vard.com)

Fine Comunicato n.1616-80

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