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**MTA** 

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Diffusione presunta

Oggetto : FINCANTIERI and Viking Ocean Cruises

strengthen their partnership

# Testo del comunicato

Vedi allegato.



## FINCANTIERI AND VIKING OCEAN CRUISES STRENGTHEN THEIR PARTNERSHIP

Contracts for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> ships effective, options for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> ships exercised

*Trieste, December 16, 2017* – Following the agreement signed last April between Fincantieri and Viking Ocean Cruises, the contracts for the construction of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> ships have become effective and, furthermore, the company has exercised the option for the 9<sup>th</sup> and the 10<sup>th</sup> unit.

The new units will be sister ships of the ones already ordered, 4 of which have been delivered and currently operate successfully in the company's fleet. The ships have a gross tonnage of 47,800 tons and accommodate 930 guests in 465 all-veranda cabins, built according to the latest navigation regulations and equipped with the most modern safety systems, including the "Safe return to port" system.

The first of the series, "Viking Star", built at the shipyard in Marghera, took to sea in March 2015; the second, the third, and the fourth, "Viking Sea", "Viking Sky" and "Viking Sun", built at the shipyard in Ancona, were delivered respectively in March 2016, January and September 2017. The other 6 sister ships, including those related to the exercised option, will be delivered in 2018, 2019, 2021, two in 2022 and 2023.

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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 more than 19,400 employees, of whom more than 8,200 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

Viking was founded in 1997 with the purchase of four ships in Russia and is now celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2017 as the leader in river and small ship ocean cruising. Designed for discerning travelers with interests in science, history, culture and cuisine, Chairman Torstein Hagen often says Viking offers guests "the thinking person's cruise" as an alternative to mainstream cruises. In its first two years of operation, Viking has been rated the #1 ocean cruise line in Travel + Leisure's 2016 and 2017 "World's Best" Awards. Viking currently operates a fleet of 63 vessels, offering scenic cruising on rivers and oceans around the world. By 2022 the company will operate eight 930-guest ocean cruise ships



and will be the largest small ship ocean cruise line. In addition to the Travel + Leisure honors, Viking has also been honored multiple times on Condé Nast Traveler's "Gold List" as well as recognized by Cruise Critic as "Best Overall" Small-Mid size ship in the 2017 Cruisers' Choice Awards, "Best River Cruise Line" and "Best River Itineraries," with the entire Viking Longships® fleet being named "Best New River Ships" in the website's Editors' Picks Awards. For additional information, contact Viking at 1-855-8-VIKING (1-855-884-5464) or visit www.vikingcruises.com

#### **Media Assets**

For more information, images and b-roll for Viking, contact vikingpr@edelman.com

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