

FINCANTIERI: VARD TO BUILD A SECOND HYBRID OCEAN ENERGY CONSTRUCTION VESSEL FOR ISLAND OFFSHORE

The state-of-the-art unit will install subsea infrastructure and carry out subsea operations

Vard, Norwegian subsidiary of the Fincantieri Group and one of the major global designers and shipbuilders of specialized vessels, has signed a contract with Island Offshore, a Norwegian shipping group operating in the Oil and Gas and Renewable market, to design and build a second hybrid-powered Ocean Energy Construction Vessel (OECV). The new contract refers to the exercise of one option foreseen in the contract for one firm OECV and the option for two sister vessels announced with Island Offshore in May 2024.

Scheduled for delivery in Q1 2027, the new unit will be based on the VARD 3 25 design, developed in close collaboration with Island Offshore. It will be tailored to support a wide range of subsea operations, including inspection, maintenance, and repair (IMR), pipe laying, subsea infrastructure construction, installation, and diving support.

The vessel will measure 120 meters in length with a 25-meter beam and will feature a 250-ton heave-compensated offshore subsea crane. It will accommodate 130 people on board, providing top-tier facilities for crew and clients.

Additional features include a 1,7 MWh Energy Storage System for hybrid propulsion, a Heat Recovery System for enhanced energy efficiency, and preparation for alternative low-emission fuel. The vessel will also have two launch and recovery systems (LARS) for ROV operations and will be ready for walk-to-work gangway use, making it highly versatile for renewable energy projects like cable laying and trenching.

Vard and Island Offshore have a strong partnership, with Vard having already delivered 41 vessels to the group.

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Fincantieri is one of the world's largest shipbuilding groups, the only one active in all high-tech marine industry sectors. It is leader in the construction and transformation of cruise, naval and oil & gas and wind offshore vessels, as well as in the production of systems and component equipment, after-sales services and marine interiors solutions. Thanks to the expertise developed in the management of complex projects, the Group boasts first-class references in infrastructures, and is a reference player in digital technologies and cybersecurity, electronics and advanced systems. With over 230 years of history and more than 7,000 ships built, Fincantieri maintains its know-how, expertise and management centers in Italy, where it employs 10,000 workers and creates around 90,000 jobs, doubling the employment figure worldwide thanks to a production network of 18 shipyards operating on three continents employing over 21,000 direct workers.

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