PRESS RELEASE

d'Amico Group and the Royal Institution of Naval Architects award the best recent MSc graduates in Naval Architecture and Marine engineering from the University of Genoa with the 'Student Naval Architect Award'

The prestigious international award was offered to Giacomo Telara for the XVI edition and to Francesco Ghio and Federico Graffione for the XVII edition.

07 March 2025 – The **Royal Institution of Naval Architects** - an international professional society of naval engineers founded in London in 1860 - in collaboration with the **d'Amico Group**, presented today at Villa Cambiaso the **RINA-d'Amico Student Naval Architect Award**. The award was granted to **Giacomo Telara** for the XVI edition and to **Francesco Ghio** and **Federico Graffione** for the XVII edition, all recent MSc graduates in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering from the University of Genoa.

The **Student Naval Architect Award** is conferred by the **Royal Institution of Naval Architects** to more than 30 universities worldwide, including the historic **University of Genoa**, selected for its **time-honoured tradition and collaboration with the naval industry.**

Giacomo Telara received the award for the XVI edition with his thesis entitled ***"Modelling and simulation of external fire-fighting systems for Offshore dynamic positioned vessels"***. His paper analyzes the interaction between Dynamic Positioning (DP) control systems and firefighting equipment, bridging a gap in the evaluation of the water jet's influence on propulsion. The research, applied to a Platform Supply Vessel, develops across three levels of analysis - static with an intact ship, static in a degraded condition, and dynamic - to understand the impact of these forces on position maintenance.

Francesco Ghio and **Federico Graffione** were awarded the Prize for the XVII edition with their thesis titled ***"Investigation on shipboard power quality on Cruise ships under high penetration of power converters"*.** Their thesis proposes a methodology to analyze the impact of the increasing presence of power electronics devices on onboard electrical networks, which is crucial for system efficiency, including propulsion. Through data analysis and onboard measurements, they developed a model-based approach to identify the most critical loads and operational conditions affecting power quality.

The ceremony was held at Villa Cambiaso, historic noble residence of the Municipality of Genoa and home to the University of Genoa's Polytechnic School. The event was attended by Prof. **Paola Gualeni**, *Deputy Dean of the Polytechnic School at UNIGE and Chair of the course of studies in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering*, representatives of the *Royal Institution of Naval Architects*, - and a delegation from the d'Amico Group, comprising Eng. **Maurizio d'Amico**, also *Council Member of the Royal Institution of Naval Architects*; Eng. **Cesare D'Api**, *Technical Director*; Eng. *Luigi Mennella*, *Head of Performance Monitoring & Decarbonization.*

During the event, Eng. **Cesare D'Api** and Eng. **Luigi Mennella** outlined international and regional regulations for greenhouse gas emissions reduction in the shipping sector, with a particular focus on the evolving IMO regulations. A specific focus was dedicated to the challenges and opportunities for the maritime industry, presenting d'Amico's fleet risk profile with an analysis of the strategies adopted for the transition to more sustainable practices. The company's decarbonization roadmap was shared, based on energy efficiency, digital technology adoption, and measures to reduce environmental impact. The presentation concluded with insights into the future of low-carbon shipping, highlighting the challenges yet to be addressed.

Following, Prof. **Cesare Rizzo**, *Full Professor at the Department of Naval, Electrical, Electronic, and Telecommunications Engineering (DITEN) at the University of Genoa*, delivered a speech titled "*Goal-Based Standards: A New Sea on the Horizon.*" In recent years, shipbuilding rules have been developed following the principles of Goal-Based Standards (GBS), an approach that has enabled a more rational innovation in key aspects of ship design. Among these, the update of characteristic metocean conditions for structural robustness assessments stands out.

"*A heartfelt thanks to the University of Genoa and the Department of Naval Engineering for their hospitality and invitation to this award ceremony*," stated **Matt Tennant, Director of Membership of the Royal Institution of Naval Architects**. *'The RINA-d'Amico Naval Architect Award celebrates excellence among naval engineering students. The collaboration between the Royal Institution, the d'Amico Group, and the University of Genoa promotes innovation, research, and sustainability in the sector. We are pleased to award Giacomo Telara, Francesco Ghio, and Federico Graffione for their theses, which address future challenges related to digitalization and sustainability*."

"*We are proud to be among the founders of this prestigious award, which for years has recognized the merit and talent of young naval engineers from the University of Genoa. Our collaboration with the Royal Institution of Naval Architects and the Department of Naval Engineering at UNIGE strengthens our commitment to education and innovation in the sector. Congratulations to Giacomo Telara, Francesco Ghio, and Federico Graffione for their outstanding research work*", commented **Francesco Rotundo, Group HR Director of the d'Amico Group.**

d'Amico Group Profile

d'Amico Società di Navigazione S.p.A. is the holding company of a global leading group in naval shipping, active in the dry cargo and tankers sectors and in the provision of services that are instrumental to naval activities. The d'Amico Group has a long and historical family entrepreneurial tradition dating back to 1936, developing its position on the global market over the years, with offices in the most important merchant shipping ports.

The d'Amico Group is committed to being at the forefront of supporting training projects, cooperating with education and academic institutions. Education and professional development of its human resources, who are constantly encouraged towards professional growth, are among the most important values for the d'Amico Group. Furthermore, through funding various educational projects at various levels, the company assists students in accessing opportunities to begin a successful career and pursue their chosen field.

Royal Institution of Naval Architects Profile

Founded in 1860 in London to "advance the art and science of ship design" today the Royal Institution of Naval Architects is a world renowned and highly respected international professional institution and learned society whose members are involved at all levels in the design, construction, maintenance and operation of all marine vessels and structures. The Institution has members in over ninety countries, and is widely represented in industry, universities and colleges, and maritime organisations worldwide.

d'Amico Group Press Office

Havas PR Milano

Andrea Parvizyar – andrea.parvizyar@havaspr.com - +39 02 85457087

Antonio Buozzi – antonio.buozzi@havaspr.com - +39 02 85457027 - +39 320 0624418