



**PALACONGRESSI
DI RIMINI**

Press release no. 2

RIMINI'S NEW PALACONGRESSI CONVENTION CENTRE: WORK IN PROGRESS

**September 2010 will see the completion of Italy's largest convention centre:
42 rooms, 9,300 seats, investments worth €117 million.**

The run-up to the beginning of construction work involved preparing the Unitary Project for the whole intervention area – as required by the variation to the urban plan – application for 'building permission', tendering and then the kick-off for the actual building work.

Early October 2005 saw the demolition of the old expo centre, which was completed in February 2006.

This preliminary stage came to an end on 11 June 2007 when the building contract was awarded to Torno Internazionale Spa and the Rimini Town Council granted building permission.

With the formal procedure stage completed and the contracts assigned, at the end of September 2007 the foundation stone of the new complex was laid in an official ceremony.

On 5 July 2008, the Palazzo dei Congressi company – in charge of the new convention centre project and chaired by Lorenzo Cagnoni – stipulated an agreement with Torno Internazionale Spa, signing an important addendum to the contract that includes in particular a joint venture between Torno Internazionale and Cofathec (Gruppo Gaz de France) for the realization of the Palacongressi.

In 2009, from January to April, traffic was interrupted in via della Fiera in order to make the underpass that will link the 500-vehicle underground car park located beneath the Palacongressi with an identical one to be built below the future Music Auditorium.

The two-lane tunnel, five metres below street level, will cross via della Fiera approximately at the level of the underpass that was demolished when work began and which linked the pavilions of the former expo centre.

Two new roundabouts have also been built: one at the intersection with via Monte Titano/Simonini and via della Fiera and another, closer to the sea, that will guarantee access to the new Palacongressi and Music Auditorium car parks.

New pavements have been built on either side of the road and on the Riccione side there is also a cycle path. In via della Fiera the road has been re-surfaced and work has also been done on the service conduits. In the meantime, while work continues on the new Palacongressi, the finishing touches are being made to the re-development of the surrounding area: an artificial lake has been built, as has a bridge allowing for a cycle/pedestrian underpass. In this way two urban parks will be linked to create a leafy route from the convention centre to the centre of town and down to the sea

Within the Palacongressi building site, after the initial period, in which the site was dug, the foundations were laid and the load-bearing framework was erected according to the plans defined with the construction company ATI, work on site was scheduled. The interiors, furnishings, fittings and technological equipment have been defined, structural work has been completed and now the plant and finishing touches are being completed. The inauguration is scheduled to take place on Saturday 25 September 2010.

Società Palazzo dei Congressi di Rimini, initially 100% controlled by Rimini Fiera and later participated also by private and public partners (Province, Town Council and Chamber of Commerce of Rimini), is managing the realization stage. The company will retain ownership of the complex and will commission Convention Bureau della Riviera di Rimini (a Gruppo Rimini Fiera company) to manage it.

FURTHER INFO FOR THE PRESS

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