



The Navy invests €2 million in the La Spezia Arsenal for the new Incursori vessel

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La Spezia - The **Marina Militare** is preparing to welcome its new and highly modern naval vessel. To make room for **Nave Olterra**, scheduled for delivery in **2027**, the **Defense** has ordered the **functional reorganization of Area 39**, located within the base of the **Arsenale di La Spezia**.

The overall investment for upgrading and optimizing the yard is **just under 2 million euros**. The project's technical report bears the signature of **engineer Davide Giannarelli**.

Technical Specifications and Details of Nave Olterra

Classified as **SDO-SURS** (*Special and Diving Operations - Submarine Rescue Ship*), **Nave Olterra** is one of the **most advanced naval platforms** in the European maritime and underwater sector.

- **Dimensions and Capacity:** A length of **128 meters**, a beam of **24 meters**, and a full-load displacement of approximately **12,000 tons**. It is designed to accommodate up to **200 personnel**, including crew, embarked personnel, and special forces operators.
- **Performance and Propulsion:** Equipped with a **latest-generation electric propulsion system** and advanced **dynamic positioning capabilities**, essential for accurately positioning itself directly above a disabled submarine requiring assistance on the seabed.
- **Underwater Systems and Rescue:** It integrates **hyperbaric systems for saturation diving to depths of 300 meters**, as well as **autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs)**, **tethered drones**, and **latest-generation sonar systems**.
- **Mission Versatility:** **Modular design** technology allows the ship to be reconfigured according to the assigned mission, serving as a **command-and-control center**, laboratory, and support platform for divers and **incursori del Varignano**.
- **Construction and Sustainability:** Launched in Genoa in **October 2025** at **Cantieri Mariotti** (Gruppo Genova Industrie Navali), it is the first vessel of its kind built by Genoese shipyards for the Marina Militare, standing out as an **example of national sustainability and technological excellence**.

The entry into service of **Nave Olterra** will mark the gradual retirement of **Nave Anteo**, the Navy's historic support and rescue vessel, **in service since the 1980s** and the protagonist of hundreds of recovery operations and missions.

Work in Arsenal Area 39

The infrastructure project in Area 39 will enable the redevelopment and repurposing of a **7,200-square-meter** area currently in a state of partial abandonment:

- **Storage and Handling:** The area will house the ship's **modular equipment** and will be served by **two overhead-crane rails**.
- **Surface Improvements:** Invasive vegetation will be cleared, and new **walkable reinforced-concrete paving** will be installed.
- **Infrastructure and Utilities:** Existing underground **network, electrical, and water connections** will be integrated and optimized. **No deep excavation, first-flush water treatment, or wartime ordnance clearance operations are planned.**

A Name Steeped in History

The name ***Olterra*** pays tribute to the **historic merchant vessel** that, during the Second World War, was kept secret and used as a **hidden logistics base in Algeciras Bay** by Regia Marina raiders. Aboard the Olterra, the **slow-running torpedoes (the so-called "pigs")** used in raids against the British fleet at Gibraltar were housed and maintained.

As emphasized by the **Ministry of Defense**, Nave Olterra **will decisively strengthen Italy's ability to ensure underwater security in the Mediterranean**, consolidating the outstanding partnership between Defense and the national shipbuilding industry.