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The Remarkable Journey of TBM 'Gaia' from Germany to Turin, Italy

Savino Del Bene, one of the leading companies in the field of international logistics and transportation, with 337 offices in 60 countries, has recently successfully completed a complex transport operation.

The shipment concerned the four fundamental components of the Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM), named "Gaia," necessary for the construction of Turin's rainwater metro system. The new collector will run under the city for 14.4 km and will be excavated at a depth of over 20 meters. The whole project will cost over 146 million euros.

Gaia has an external diameter of 4.1 meters, whereas the cutterhead of the shield is approximately 10 meters long: an engineering marvel worth 15 million euros. Savino Del Bene handled the transportation from the German city of Schwanau to Turin, in Italy.

Route and Transportation Mode

The shipment's route followed a complex itinerary, combining various modes of transportation to ensure maximum efficiency and safety. The journey began in Schwanau, where the four pieces - exceptional in size and weight - were loaded onto trucks at the manufacturer's plant and transported to the river port of Kehl. Gaia's voyage continued on a barge that sailed along the Rhine, to Rotterdam.

Sea Freight

In Rotterdam, the valuable "Gaia" components were loaded onto a Break Bulk ship chartered by Savino Del Bene, which carried out the sea transport to Italy. The ship docked at the terminal in Genoa, where the pieces were unloaded and prepared for the final leg of the journey.

Overland and Delivery

The final step of the shipment was carried out by CRT Udine's trucks, a Savino Del Bene Group's subsidiary, which specializes in handling exceptional loads.

As part of the operation, Savino Del Bene also managed the shipment of approximately 30 trucks of exceptional transports from Schwanau to Turin, including standard materials that could be shipped overland.



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In Turin, the components were delivered directly to the construction site, ready for assembly, and contribute to the development of the city's infrastructure.

This shipment operation - carried out in the year the Company celebrates its 125 years of activity - represents a perfect example of complex and coordinated logistics, in which Savino Del Bene has deployed its expertise and competence to ensure timely and safe delivery of materials of high-value commodities.

About Savino Del Bene

Savino Del Bene is a multinational Company operating worldwide in international shipping and logistics support services. Established in Florence in 1899, the Company has grown over time to become the largest specialized Italian shipping company. With a network of more than 330 offices and over 6,000 employees across five continents, the Company manages air, sea, and overland transportation services through its long-standing relationships with the best carriers and service providers.

In 2023, Savino Del Bene shipped 735k TEU by sea and 87k tons by air, ending the year with a revenue of 2.7 billion euros.

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