

# Superyacht hulls form roof of Italian Pavillion at Dubai Expo

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## Boero Group uses over 17,000 litres of specially created high-tech paints and finishes

In an astonishing example of Italian creativity, three 42m-plus inverted superyacht hulls had been hoisted into position to form the roof structure of the Italian Pavillion at the Dubai Expo which opened last Friday. The two 42m and one 55m steel hulls were painted in the national colours by Boero to form the largest-ever Italian flag and were built in Italy by Fincantieri.

The Expo, which IBI attended at the weekend, covers over 1,000 acres and contains over 200 national pavilions, and will run from 1st October 2021 to 31st March 2022. Its general theme is "Connecting minds, generating the future".

The Boero Group has contributed to this international showcase in a decisive way, as Premium Partner of the Italian Pavilion, by showing its ability to innovate and revealing how it is possible to achieve excellent results geared to respecting the environment and with interesting prospects not only to supplying products already in its range, but also to researching and developing even more innovative and sustainable solutions to be showcased later.



The Boero Group is a Premium Partner of the Italian Pavilion at Dubai Expo 2021



Source: Dubai Expo; Carlo Ratti Associati & Italo Rota Building Office  
Aerial view of the three superyacht hulls making up the roof – painted by the Boero Group – of Italy's pavilion at the Dubai Expo 2020

More than 17,000 litres of products have left the Boero Group's plant to paint the various parts that make up the Italian Pavilion, starting with the structure formed of three full-sized inverted yacht hulls that cover the pavilion and together represent the largest tricolour presentation in the history of Italy (2,100m<sup>2</sup>).

For this symbolic installation, red and white paints were formulated which faithfully reproduce the official colours of the Italian flag. Above

these colours, a transparent pearl white has been applied, specially formulated by the group's laboratories and carefully selected by the designers in order to obtain a spectacular effect as though the flag were moving.

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All this was done in order to enhance the tricolour by the best possible means. The hulls are connected to each other by a complex roof which links the exterior and interior of the building for climatic, lighting and acoustic aspects.

With no external walls, the pavilion also has a multimedia façade composed of over 70km of recycled plastic nautical cordage and employs an advanced natural climate mitigation system that eliminates the need for air conditioning. As a whole, the project proposes new visions for reconfigurable architecture and circular design, conceived to address the current climate crisis.

In addition, for the interior of the pavilion, Boero decorated some areas of specific interest such as the VIP area, the auditorium, the educational lab and the foyer, with the experimental use of “neomaterials”: raw materials and pigments based on spirulina, a microalgae that gives surprising colours, thus proposing a green alternative to traditional pigments of synthetic origin. With different quantities of microalgae in the paint, it was possible to obtain shades of green that met the requirements of the architectural studios CRA-Carlo Ratti Associati and Italo Rota Building Office, designers of the Italian Pavilion together with F&M Ingegneria and Matteo Gatto.



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