

CRS4 and Luna Rossa, "goodbye" after six years of intense collaboration

Cagliari, September 4th 2020

CRS4, the Sardinian research center, represented by the sole administrator, **prof. Giacomo Cao**, **greeted the Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli sailing team** at the molo Ichnusa operational base in Cagliari before its departure to Auckland, New Zealand's capital where, in march 2021, the 36th America's Cup presented by Prada, will take place.

CRS4 and Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli team have been collaborating for six years, and in particular during the last two ones have been working in a **joint research and development project**, funded by the FSC resources 2014-2020 - "Agreement for the Development of the Region of Sardinia". Thanks to the latter one, the **sailing team has been able to take advantage of emerging technologies thus adapting them to the need of the nautical industry**. The team will then be able to improve its performance in view of the historic trophy's participation to which, since 1851, the most technologically advanced sailing boats in the world are willing to compete.

CRS4 researchers have provided their experience and expertise in the following sectors: high-performance computing, innovative broadband networks for widespread connectivity on a geographical scale, sensors, radio infrastructure for data transmission for real-time visualization of boat monitoring during the competition.

Giacomo Cao highlights what follows regarding the existing collaboration: "CRS4 is proud to have contributed through its **know-how to the preparation of Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli team** in view of the 2021 America's Cup. We wish that the city of Cagliari and, more generally Sardinia as a whole, will be the theatre of national and international sailing competitions including their related training periods. These opportunities will allow CRS4 to take advantage of the experience gained in this sector with such a prestigious partner in order to **guarantee a lasting return in terms of employment** after the regional investments made available".

Gilberto Nobili, Operation Manager of Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli team underlines: "Describing the CRS4 and our collaboration is not easy. What they have contributed over the years is really significant. Here in Sardinia, right beside our base, we found not only excellent technological infrastructures, but also the support of trained and willing professionals, always ready for new challenges. Thanks to the projects developed with their support, we have been able to explore new technological frontiers and pushed the boat and ourselves to new objectives that weren't even imaginable before. I'm proud to say that this technological reality, perhaps little known outside of the sector, deserves to be highlighted internationally as 'another side' to the beautiful Sardinia".

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