

Port of Vado, the new breakwater takes shape

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Works on the new breakwater at the Port of Vado Ligure continue to progress steadily, marking another milestone in the upgrade of the strategic port infrastructure.

Positioned further offshore than the existing facility, the new breakwater will consent the expansion of the turning basin by approximately 150 metres, allowing ultra-large vessels to manoeuvre in full safety towards the terminals. The development is expected to enhance maritime accessibility and significantly improve overall navigational safety within the port area.

The eleventh caisson has been successfully installed, completing the connection between the new offshore barrier and the original breakwater linked directly to the mainland. The project calls for the relocation of eleven caissons from the existing breakwater, to be positioned alongside four newly constructed caissons. A variation to the layout has been approved to facilitate simultaneous construction activities, both at sea and onshore, allowing crew and equipment to operate in parallel. Upon completion, the new layout of the upgraded breakwater will improve maritime access to the terminal facilities located in the Port of Vado Ligure, whilst also boosting coastal protection against the impact of severe sea-storms.

The next phase of the project is set to focus on the junctions between the caissons which are to form the new breakwater. Reinforced-concrete blocks will be installed to fill the gaps between the caissons, thereby eliminating cavities and uneven surfaces and ensuring greater structural continuity. This stage will be followed by the construction of the concrete superstructures and completion of the wave wall, with works already underway.

Construction commenced in 2021 and has to date reached approximately 80 per cent completion. The project is on schedule for conclusion by the end of 2026.