

## Trelleborg Helps Protect Venice from Rising Tide

Recalling Moses and the parting of the Red Sea, MOSE is an apt name for a project aimed at saving Venice and the Venetian Lagoon from the threat of ever-high tides.

The MOSE, constructed by the Ministero delle Infrastrutture e dei Trasporti – Magistrato alle Acque di Venezia (Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport – Venice Water Authority) through the Consorzio Venezia Nuova, is part of a major systemic program of measures combining physical defense with restoration of the morphological equilibrium of the entire lagoon ecosystem. The final and most important element in the planned intervention to safeguard the lagoon area, the MOSE construction is now about 80% complete.

Scheduled to be completed in 2016 at an estimated cost of 5.5 billion EUR, the MOSE project requires 78 mobile barriers to be installed at the Lido, Malamocco and Chioggia inlets, the gaps through which the tide enters the lagoon and that separate it from the Adriatic. The barriers consist of steel gates installed end-to-end and are used only when there is the danger of flooding. The gates are normally completely invisible, resting in special housings in the bed of the lagoon inlets. When high water is forecast, they are temporarily raised to isolate the lagoon from the Adriatic Sea.

When the tide goes down, the gates are returned to their housing in the seabed. Trelleborg has been very involved in the MOSE project with contracts to supply the project with tailor-made sealing solutions and multiple fender systems. The company supplied its state-



of-the-art Super Cone and Arch fenders after overcoming the challenge of supplying a large quantity of fenders in a particularly short turnaround time. Trelleborg worked closely with the consultant engineer, Technital, during the design phase as well as with one of the project's main contractors, Clodia SpA.

"For such a large-scale infrastructure project, it was vital that we source a reliable solution that would stand the test of time," says Diego Zandolin of Clodia SpA. "Trelleborg promised a hassle-free installation process and proven functionality. Its fender systems and bespoke sealing systems provide an ideal solution. Ease of installation was a major factor in choosing Trelleborg." For more information, visit [www.trelleborg.com](http://www.trelleborg.com).