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PRESS RELEASE

The visit of the Algerian director Belaroussi and the IDSA inspection confirm its role as a strategic hub for industrial diving

Palermo, the Cedifop Study Centre strengthens its position in the Mediterranean

PALERMO (15 april 2026) - Cedifop, the professional training institute operating within the Port of Palermo, once again confirms itself as an international centre of excellence in the field of industrial diving training, becoming the stage for significant diplomatic synergies and rigorous quality-standard inspections. In recent hours, the centre's director, Manos Kouvakis, formalised the details of an important technical mission that will involve the general director of the Algerian company Belaroussi Pipeline Maintenance & Services, Djamel Belaroussi.

The visit, scheduled for mid-June at Molo Sannuzzo, Cedifop's headquarters, represents a crucial step in strengthening training ties between Sicily and North Africa in a strategic sector such as Oil & Gas.

Algeria's interest in the Palermo training model is no coincidence. Djamel Belaroussi will have the opportunity to directly observe key phases of the current Inshore OTS (Underwater Technical Operator) course, with a specific focus on underwater welding - a skill increasingly in demand for the maintenance of major underwater energy infrastructures.

The presence of Algerian students already enrolled in Cedifop's training programmes demonstrates the centre's ability to attract international talent, offering certifications that open the doors to the global job market.

Parallel to this diplomatic opening, the centre is preparing for another crucial appointment: the IDSA (International Diving Schools Association) audit. This international body, which sets the criteria for safety and quality in commercial diver training worldwide, will subject Cedifop to an in-depth assessment.

The goal is to ensure that the teaching protocols and equipment used at Molo Sannuzzo meet the highest standards of excellence required by the offshore and inshore markets.

These developments have not gone unnoticed at the European level. Last year, Cedifop was included in the ETF (European Training Foundation) register of professional excellence - a recognition that highlights the value of Palermo's training programmes within the framework of cooperation between the European Union and neighbouring countries.

The ability to combine high-level technical training with international outreach and compliance with rigorous quality audits positions the Centre as an essential reference point for industrial diving.

The visit of the Algerian delegation and the IDSA inspection therefore represent two sides of the same coin: the constant pursuit of technical perfection and the ambition to train the sea professionals of tomorrow, capable of operating with competence and safety anywhere in the world.

CENTRO STUDI CEDIFOP – Formazione professionale subacquea industriale

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Full member IDSA (International Diving Schools Association) - Diver Training n. FF 24
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