

Giuseppe Sarago, Fincantieri, Additive Manufacturing in Shipbuilding & Systems -
Turning problems and ideas in opportunity for faster growth

Additive manufacturing is becoming increasingly relevant to shipbuilding not simply as a new way to produce parts, but because it enables a new way to solve industrial challenges. Shipbuilding is a high-complexity, low-volume environment in which long lead times, fragile supply chains, one-off components, legacy designs, urgent yard needs and growing pressure on skilled labour are exposing the limits of conventional manufacturing. In this context, AM should be regarded not as a standalone production technology, but as an enhanced industrial capability.

Drawing on Fincantieri's ongoing experience, the true value of AM emerges when printing is combined with redesign and with the active contribution of people. This approach opens new perspectives both in product engineering and in day-to-day operations, enabling the development of lighter, more efficient and higher-performing components, including those that support shipyard activities.

The key enabler is not the machine alone, but a clear focus on the industrial problem to be solved, together with the ability to build internal knowledge, involve end users, connect designers and operators, and create ecosystems with partners, research centres and certification bodies.

In this sense, AM becomes a strategic capability for shipbuilding: a way to turn ideas into industrial solutions, with people at the centre of transformation.