

With the entry of Indico Capital Partners and SIMEST,
international investors' confidence in the Italian underwater technology continues to grow

WSense ACCELERATES: THE ITALIAN UNDERWATER WIRELESS SCALE-UP CLOSES A €10 MILLION PRE-SERIES B ROUND AND REACHES €25 MILLION IN TOTAL FUNDING

The Italian scale-up led by Chiara Petrioli, a global leader in the development of underwater wireless monitoring and communication systems, brings total funds raised to over €25 million. The transaction marks the entry of Indico Capital Partners — a European fund specializing in deep tech and the blue economy — and SIMEST, a company of the CDP Group supporting the international expansion of Italian enterprises.

Rome, October 2025 | WSense — the Italian ocean tech company enabling the *Internet of Underwater Things* (IoUT) through its “subsea Wi-Fi” systems — continues its international growth trajectory with the closing of its **Pre-Series B round at €10 million**.

Indico Capital Partners and **SIMEST** join the group of existing investors in the company's fundraising effort: CDP Venture Capital SGR, Blue Ocean by SWEN, RunwayFBU, Axon Partners Group — already part of the Series A round — as well as Fincantieri and Rypples.

Founded by **Chiara Petrioli**, Full Professor of Computer Engineering at Sapienza University and CEO since 2022, WSense delivers unique innovative solutions that ensure **seamless interoperability of adaptive wireless networks** between multi-vendor underwater sensors and autonomous vehicles, with unmatched reliability and scalability. WSense's **patented technologies** enable **real-time, secure, and cost-efficient underwater wireless communications**, making it possible to collect **ocean Big Data on an unprecedented scale**. This capability is revolutionizing our understanding of marine ecosystems and enabling new applications — from the monitoring and protection of critical infrastructure, to resident autonomous robotic networks supporting energy transition, to real-time environmental monitoring.

As WSense CEO **Chiara Petrioli** emphasizes: “The entry of new investors such as **Indico Capital Partners** and **SIMEST** represents a strong recognition of the value of our technology and our international growth strategy. With the completion of this round — bringing WSense's **total funding to over €25 million** — and thanks to the support of leading industrial and financial partners, we will accelerate the development of cutting-edge IoUT solutions for the energy transition, infrastructure security, and the protection of the oceans.”

Stephan de Moraes, Managing General Partner at **Indico Capital Partners** comments “Wsense is a great example of Italy's deep tech capabilities and the opportunities emerging in ocean-related technologies. As a dual-use technology company with strong industrial partners and a clear growth trajectory, Wsense is well-positioned for the next stage of development. We are delighted to support this new phase of growth and look forward to working closely with the Wsense team”.

“WSense is an example of excellence in the blue economy and deep tech sectors, where innovation and sustainability come together to create new growth opportunities,” said **Vera Veri**, Director of Equity Investments at **SIMEST** “SIMEST's entry into the company's capital follows this path, in line with the strategy of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the international development of Italian enterprises and with the CDP Group's commitment to supporting high-tech innovative start-ups. It is a System-wide contribution aimed at enhancing advanced skills and cutting-edge solutions in sectors that are strategic for the country's future.”

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The global underwater sector is expected to reach a **€400 billion market value between 2024 and 2030**, with innovative technology solutions accounting for over €30 billion. Within this framework, **WSense** is targeting the **global underwater communications market**, estimated at around **€10 billion**.

The growing **strategic importance of the subsea domain** is evidenced by the fact that there are currently **552 submarine cables** spanning a total of **1.4 million kilometers**, through which **98% of global digital communications** — including financial and commercial transactions — are transmitted (source: *Italian Navy*).

ABOUT WSENSE

WSense mission is to give the ocean a voice by enabling large scale, high density, continuous ocean data collection, in real time, taking care of marine ecosystems. WSense makes possible a deeper **understanding of the ocean** — including its vital role to address climate and biodiversity crisis — and a transition towards a regenerative, productive, safe and accountable ocean economy. Active since 2017, WSense now has a team of over 80 engineers and researchers — with offices in Italy, Norway, and UK, and employees in France and the United Arab Emirates. The company counts among its business partners the Italian Ministry of Defence, the Italian Navy, the National Oceanography Centre, the Higher Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA), the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (INGV), the National Agency for New Technologies (ENEA), as well as partnerships with major companies such as Leonardo, Saipem, Terna, Fincantieri, AkerBP, A2A, ENI, and Alcatel Submarine Networks. To date, WSense has transmitted more than 2.2 million ocean data points in real time, covering over 48 metocean parameters.

More info: <https://wsense.it> - <https://bit.ly/WSense> [WEF](#)

ABOUT INDICO CAPITAL PARTNERS

Indico Capital Partners is a leading independent Venture Capital fund manager based in Portugal, investing in Southern European related global and sustainable technology companies. Indico funds invest in deep tech, software as a service, marketplaces, artificial intelligence, space tech, fintech, cybersecurity and ocean related companies. Indico's range of investments goes, mostly, from Pre-Seed to Series B (100k and 10M euros) in Portuguese, Spanish and Italian related startups. Indico is often the first investor in a startup and, given the teams' backgrounds, works very closely with portfolio companies. Since 2019, Indico has invested more than 120 million euros in 53 companies, which have raised more than 2.5 billion euros from global investors.

www.indicocapital.com

ABOUT SIMEST

SIMEST is the company of the **Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP) Group** that supports the growth and competitiveness of Italian businesses operating abroad. SIMEST assists companies by supporting their investments in innovation and sustainability, accompanying them throughout the entire international expansion process — from the first steps into a new market to growth through direct foreign investments. SIMEST operates through three main business lines: Concessional Financing, Equity Investments, and Export Support.

<https://www.simest.it>

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