

In general, said Fortune's Federici, demand for project logistics services in Italy is increasing. However, he added that fierce competition for work is limiting the benefits for project forwarders. "We are getting more requests than in the past, but the

competition is much stronger so we are actually winning fewer. This can be viewed as a general increase in volumes exported from Italy – meaning the economy is growing – but it is still a difficult situation for the forwarders and logistics operators."

Industrial manufacturing is one of the key areas that is growing, explained Federici, who added that the 'Made in Italy' label has retained its strong reputation on the global market. "The needs of this sector are strongly linked to project logistics opportunities," he added. Other markets, like fashion for example, are also strengthening; while these do not necessarily require the highly specialised transport services of project logisticians, they are indicative of improving economic conditions.

HEAVY LIFT

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Fortune International handled the transport of a 70-tonne unit from Novara to the port of Marghera. The cargo was transported by road to Mantova, where it was loaded onto a barge.

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FORTUNE

Project Cargo Handling

COUNTRY REPORT ITALY

A 'political nightmare' stalls sector growth

After slipping back into a recession in 2018, Italy's project logistics market has been held back by the absence of an investment programme. *Sophie Barnes reports.*

Political disagreements

Federici pointed to the large-scale Turin-Lyon high-speed train link project, which has come to a standstill amid disagreements within Italy's government. "This is a clear example of how the wrong political activity can damage a large project," he said.

