



Call for Tenders for Operating and Maintaining of Porto Metropolitan Area Light Railway concluded

ViaPORTO Consortium signs contract

- Bid provides for annual savings of €23 million
- The ViaPORTO team is already preparing for the start of Metro do Porto operations
- Operations begin on 1st April

Lisbon, 26th February 2010 – The ViaPORTO Consortium, led by Portuguese companies, today signed the Subcontract for the Operating and Maintaining of the Porto Metropolitan Area Light Railway for a period of five years.

In close cooperation with Metro do Porto, the consortium, led by the Barraqueiro Group and including the Arriva, Keolis and Manvia companies, is already preparing for the start of operations, set for 1st April this year, in order to serve the people of the Porto Metropolitan Area better.

As José Luís Catarino, a Barraqueiro Group director, states, “it is with great satisfaction that, today, we begin a new era for our business. We are aware of the technical edge and the significant financial benefits our bid will bring. This is the result of the hard work of a team of top-quality professionals, of whom we are very proud.”

It should be noted that the bids were analysed in regard to two clear and objective criteria. In terms of the financial component, which represented 80% of the final assessment, the Barraqueiro Group’s bid was €10 million lower than Transdev’s. In terms of the technical component, which represented 20% of the final assessment, the winning bid met all the requirements and was awarded the maximum mark of 10 points.

Furthermore the Barraqueiro Group’s bid will allow the State to save €23 million, as early as 2010, while ensuring a high level of customer service quality.



Consortium Companies

The ViaPORTO Consortium also includes the French company, Keolis, the world leader in the light railway sector, which will contribute its international expertise to the Consortium. Keolis runs the Lyon, Lille, Rennes and Le Mans rail and light railway systems, and was recently awarded the rail contract in Algiers (Algeria) and Bergen (Norway), as well as the light railway contracts in Bordeaux, France and Melbourne, Australia, one of the largest and most important networks in the world today, with 250 kilometres of track.

Arriva, another Consortium company, is one of the largest transport operators in Europe, employing over 44,000 people and transporting over a thousand million passengers a year in 12 European countries.

Finally, the Consortium includes Manvia, a company specialising in infrastructure maintenance.

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