

29 April 2008

## The Dubai Al Saffoo tramway is awarded to Alstom

The Roads and Transport Authority from the Government of Dubai (RTA) has announced on Tuesday 29 April that it has awarded the ABS consortium, composed of Alstom, Besix and Serco, the phase 1 of the Al Saffoo transit system tramway project, with an option for a phase 2. The project, planned to enter into commercial service by 2011, includes, for phase 1, 11 tramways, a 10 kilometres track and 13 stations. The phase 2 provides for 14 additional trainsets, as well as 4 kilometres of tracks and 6 stations. This award opens the way for the final negotiation and the contract signing at a later stage.

The phase 1 of the Al Saffoo tramway represents a contract worth over €500 million, of which around €280 million for Alstom.

The stations of Al Saffoo tramway will be equipped with a platform screen door (PSD), which allows to maintain the air conditioning between the platform and the tramway for better passenger comfort. This equipment will be a world-premiere.

Alstom Transport will provide Citadis 402 type tramways equipped with the catenary-free APS technology, as well as the signalling and ticketing system. In operation in Bordeaux (France) since 2003, and ordered by the French cities of Reims, Angers and Orléans, the APS technology is a street level power supply system which allows to avoid traditional catenaries, in order to protect the integrity of historical city centres and high quality architectural environment . This cutting-edge technology fits with the modernity of the city of Dubai.

Dubai will be the first city in the Gulf region to be equipped with a tramway transit system.

*To date, over 1140 Citadis have been ordered by 28 cities across the world and more than 60 other cities have a tramway project scheduled for the next few years. This type of modern tramway is becoming a must in urban transport policy because they make it possible to offer sustainable mobility, to rethink and re-energize urban space, to preserve architectural heritage or fit with cutting edge architectural projects and contribute to city growth.*

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