



PRESS RELEASE

Saturday, June the 5th 2010

Gautrain Operated by Ratp Dev Inaugurated on June 5th, in Johannesburg

Gautrain, the fastest (160 km per hour) and most modern train on the African continent, was officially inaugurated, on Saturday June 5th. The first line section of Gautrain, operated and maintained by Ratp Dev (a RATP subsidiary), will be open to the public on June 8th, a few days before the Soccer World Cup on June 11th.

Thousands of spectators and business customers will be able to ride the first line section connecting the Johannesburg O.R. Tambo International Airport to the business centre of the South African city in less than 15 minutes (compared to an average one-hour car ride). Trains will be running every 12 minutes during peak hours and every 20 minutes during off-hours.

In 2011, Gautrain (contraction of the word *Gauteng*, the name of the province where the train runs, and the word *train*) will total 80 kilometres of track. It will connect Pretoria, the country's administrative capital and Johannesburg, its most populated city, thus reducing traffic congestion on the country's most travelled roadway and contributing to the region's economic development.

This vital infrastructure for the country required nearly 5 years of works, all told, and the set-up of the largest worksite on the African continent, for a budget totalling €2.5 billion. Eventually, 160,000 passengers will be travelling daily on the ultramodern rail link.

Under the terms of a concession contract, the Bombela ⁽¹⁾ consortium has been put in charge of the design, financing (for up to 20%, public funds providing the remaining 80%), construction and operations/maintenance of the Gautrain rail network for 15 years. Bombela will then hand over network operations and maintenance to Ratp Dev for fifteen years.

Ratp Dev is a subsidiary of the RATP, the main transit operator of the Paris/Ile-de-France Region, transporting 10 million passengers per day. Ratp Dev handles the operations and maintenance of urban and interurban networks (buses, coaches, tramways, rail networks and underground railway). Ratp Dev does business in 12 countries, i.e., Europe, America, Asia and Africa, and in more than 30 towns, cities and départements in France.

⁽¹⁾ *Bombela is an international group that includes Bombardier Transportation, Bouygues Travaux Publics (a subsidiary of Bouygues Construction), Murray & Roberts and the Strategic Partners Group.*

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