

MonoMetro

Press release

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Work starts on Makkah Monorail Project

Development work has started on the innovative Monorail Project for the Holy City of Makkah which was announced last year.

The Saudi Arabian General Investment Authority (SAGIA), the Ministry of Transport and the Higher Commission for the Development of Makkah and Madinah have all reviewed the study of the project and welcome it.

Earlier this year a Development and Delivery Contract was signed by HRH Prince Fawwaz Bin Nawwaf al Shaalan on behalf of the International Co for Transport Projects Development (ITPD) of Saudi Arabia with British company MonoMetro Limited headed by distinguished international architect Gareth Pearce, AA Dipl.

The project combines design, engineering and management with construction of the Makkah Metro System as shown in the attached line diagram. This will lead to a full implementation with construction of five lines using ten coach trains and nineteen stations together with administration and depots. The project includes British civil engineers (responsible for London's 2012 Olympic Stadium) and mechanical engineers (responsible for Her Majesty the Queen's Royal Train). Makkah Metro will bring new jobs and industry to Saudi Arabia and will become a hub for expanding MonoMetro's business throughout the Middle East and the rest of the world.

The Project is estimated to take four years to complete and will transport 20,000 people per hour on routes to and from the Great Mosque and 80,000 passengers per hour between Mina, Arafat and Muzdelefa. It will help considerably to relieve congestion and increase safety for the tens of thousands of pilgrims visiting the Holy Places of Makkah, especially during the Hajj and Ramadan periods. It will also cater for the growing numbers of visitors to Makkah throughout the year as well as allowing residents of Makkah to move around their city with greater ease.

International Chartered Accountant Sir David Roche, who is advising MonoMetro, has said "This project will be of the highest significance in relations between our two Kingdoms. An increasing number of pilgrims are visiting the Holy Cities of Makkah and Madinah from the United Kingdom so it is with good grace that a British company will be instrumental in the development of this facility. I am pleased that The Guardian of the Holy Places, His Majesty King Abdullah, has given his blessing to this project which will be a major contribution to the wellbeing of the pilgrims that visit his Cities.

(<http://www.saudiembassy.net/2007News/News/HajDetail.asp?cIndex=7046>)

Fig 1 Makkah Metro Line Diagram.

Fig 2 MonoMetro Train shown suspended below its rails.

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MAKKAH Metro



