



**ASTALDI AWARDED WITH A US\$ 282 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION
OF A NEW HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANT IN CHILE**

**A US\$ 600 MILLION AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO WITH PACIFIC HYDRO FOR THE
DEVELOPMENT OF ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES IN THE AREA**

Astaldi involved in the largest hydroelectric power project being carried out in Chile

Rome, september 22, 2008 – The Astaldi Group has been awarded with a contract of a value of US\$ 282 million (95% as Astaldi's share) for the construction of the Chacayes dam, in the valley of Cachapoal river, in Chile.

The plant will have an output capacity of 106 MW and will entail the construction of more than 6 km of tunnels and a complex water inlet system. Works are expected to be completed within 2011.

The employer is the Australian group Pacific Hydro, one of the world leaders in the field of the power plants and renewable energy, which is becoming the reference player in the sector power production in Chile.

At present, Pacific Hydro is involved in the development of the Alto Cachapoal Project, the largest hydroelectric power project presently being carried out in Chile, an initiative of a global value of more than US\$ 1 billion, which will lead to the construction of additional hydroelectric power plants.

Further to the Chacayes dam, the project provides for the construction of additional hydroelectric power plants: Nido de Aguila, jointly with Las Leñas, will have an output capacity of 282 MW. In connection with such new initiatives, of a global value of US\$ 600 million, Astaldi and Pacific Hydro have already entered into an exclusivity agreement opening to the signing of additional contracts during 2009.

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Listed on the STAR segment of the Italian stock exchange, Astaldi Group has been active for more than 80 years, in Italy and abroad, in designing and constructing large-scale civil engineering works, mainly operating in the following areas of activity:

- *transportation infrastructure (railways, undergrounds, roads, motorways, ports, and airports);*
- *hydraulic works and power plants (dams, hydroelectric plants, water systems, oil pipelines, gas pipelines, and water treatment plants);*
- *civil and industrial construction (hospitals, universities, airports, law courts, construction works for power plants and nuclear power plants, car parks);*
- *operation under concession of works such as car parks, hospitals, urban transport infrastructure.*

The Astaldi Group is currently a General Contractor capable of promoting financial aspects and coordinating all resources and skills necessary for the optimal development and management of complex and high-value public works.

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