



ASTALDI EARNS A US\$ 220 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANT IN EL SALVADOR

The Group confirms its leadership in the sector of power production plants

Rome, October 2, 2008 – The Astaldi Group has been awarded with an contract of a value of US\$ 220 million for the construction of El Chaparral hydroelectric power plant in Torola Valley, El Salvador.

This turnkey contract provides for the design and construction of a new hydroelectric power plant having an output capacity of 66MW. The execution of such works entails, among other things, the construction of a RCC (Roller Compacted Concrete) of a height of 87 m and a length of 231 meters and a volume of 375,000 cubic meters. The works are expected to start during the first half of 2009 and will be completed within 50 months.

The Employer is CEL (*Comisión Ejecutiva Hydroeléctrica del Rio Lempa*), the state electric company of El Salvador, and the project will be financed by the BCIE (*Banco Centroamericano de Integración Económica*).

"The construction of important hydroelectric power plants and dams historically contributed to Astaldi's renown in Italy and abroad thanks to meaningful experience accrued in the sector of power production – Giuseppe Cafiero, CEO for Group's Industrial Policy underlined -. By this new project we intend to confirm our commitment to achieve a leading position at international level also in this sector, particularly in the Americas, which we deem may offer, in the medium term, great opportunities in the field of energy production".

The Astaldi Group operates in Venezuela, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Peru and Panama mainly in the sectors of transportation, energy and healthcare infrastructures.

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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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