



ISTANBUL: LAYING OF THE FIRST STONE OF THE THIRD BOSPORUS BRIDGE

Rome, 31 May 2013 – The ceremony to lay the first stone of the Third Bosphorus Bridge – a project awarded to Astaldi Group in December 2012 – was held on Wednesday 29 May in Istanbul, Turkey. The ceremony was attended by the President of the Turkish Republic, Abdullah Gul, and the Prime Minister, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, as well as the Group's Chairman, Paolo Astaldi.

The project involves the construction of a suspension bridge measuring 1.4 kilometres in length, comprising a road and railway crossing of the Bosphorus Strait from Poyrazköy in Asia to Garipçe in Europe. The bridge will be the widest in the world, measuring 60 metres in width and featuring 8 motorway lanes (4 in each direction), split by two high-speed railway corridors. The bridge shall also set another record for the A-shaped pillars of over 320 metres in length. The project also involves approximately 115 kilometres of the North Marmara Highway along the Odayeri-Paşaköy route.



The works will be performed using the BOT (Build-Operate-Transfer) formula and entail a total investment of USD 2.5 billion, funded on a project finance basis against total concession revenues forecast of USD 4.7 billion (Astaldi has a 33.33% stake), 98% of which are guaranteed. The concession duration is just over 10 years, with approximately 3 years for design and construction activities and 7 years for subsequent management.

The project has been commissioned by the Turkish Ministry of Transport and the works will be performed as part of a joint venture with the Turkish company, IC Ictas, that is already working with Astaldi on the projects in progress in St. Petersburg, Russia to build Pulkovo International Airport and to complete the city's ring road.

Astaldi has operated in Turkey since the 1980s with construction of the Anatolian Motorway (116 kilometres between Gumusova and Gerede), and continued to be active in the country over the years with important projects such as the Istanbul underground (26 kilometres and 16 stations) opened in August 2012 and Milas-Bodrum International Airport (capacity: 5,000,000 passengers/year), built in just 15 months and under management since May 2012. At the present

time, the Group is involved in completion of Haliç Bridge – which the Istanbul underground will run across – and in the start-up of works on Phase 1 of the Gebze-Orhangazi-Izmir motorway project (over 400 km). It is also working on financing activities prior to the start-up of works on the concession project for Etilik Healthcare Campus in Ankara (3,200 hospital beds) and the Third Bosphorus Bridge, for which financial closing is expected by the end of the year.

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ASTALDI GROUP is a General Contractor operating in Italy and abroad, working in the design, construction and management of public infrastructures and large-scale civil engineering works, mainly in the transport infrastructures, energy production plants, civil and industrial constructions, and systems. It has been listed on the Italian Stock Exchange since 2002 and holds 89th position in the list of Top Global Contractors. ASTALDI GROUP ended 2012 with an order backlog of over EUR 10 billion, a turnover of EUR 2.5 billion, EBITDA of over EUR 264 million, EBIT of EUR 212 million and net profit of over EUR 74 million; net financial debt for the year, excluding treasury shares, amounted to approximately EUR 623 million. At the current time, ASTALDI GROUP works in 6 macro-areas worldwide: Italy, Central Europe (Poland, Romania, Russia) and Turkey, Middle East (Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar), Maghreb (Algeria), Latin America (Venezuela, Peru, Chile, Central America) and North America (Canada, USA).

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