



PRESS RELEASE

ASTALDI-GHELLA-IMPREGILO: NEW RAILWAY WORK IN VENEZUELA

- **1.7 billion dollars for the new railway line of 123 km**
- **Works scheduled to start by beginning of 2007**
- **This is in addition to the contracts in execution worth 4.5 billion dollars**
- **Delivered the railway stretch Caracas-Cua worth 2.5 billion dollars**

Rome – October 16, 2006. A new railway work worth 1.7 billion dollars will be assigned to the Italian joint venture Astaldi-Ghella-Impregilo (each with equal stakes of 33.33%) by the Government of Venezuela.

The announcement was given by the Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez during the inauguration of the railway line Caracas-Cua worth 2.5 billion dollars constructed by the same Italian joint venture. President Chavez has announced the assignment of the new railway program to Astaldi-Ghella-Impregilo for the 123 Km long line Cua-la Encrucijada-San Juan de los Morros. Works are scheduled to start by the beginning of 2007.

This new work worth 1.7 billion dollars adds to the two contracts signed by the same Italian joint venture last June 5th, 2006 worth 2.2 billion dollars for the construction of the railway lines San Juan de los Morros–San Fernando de Apure (252 Km) and Chaguaramas–Cabruta (201 Km) where works have already started and to the existing 2.3 billion dollar contract for the construction of the line Puerto Cabello-La Encrucijada.

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