



**ASTALDI RANKS FIRST IN THE TENDER
FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF ISTANBUL UNDERGROUND**

The contract value amounts to Euro 751 million

Rome, January 17, 2008 – The Astaldi Group, as leader of a joint venture, ranked first in the international public tender for the construction in general contracting of a new underground line in Istanbul, Turkey. The contract value amounts to Euro 751 million, 42% of which as Astaldi' share.

The contract provides for the construction of a new 20-km-long double-track line, with 16 stations, throughout the section Kadıköy-Kartal, and includes the supply of electro-mechanical plants and the signalling system. The works are expected to start already from the second half of 2008, after having completed the remaining activities preliminary to signing the contract, and their duration is expected to be of approximately 3 years.

The new underground line Kadıköy-Kartal is the most significant project to be managed by the Municipality of Istanbul during the last few years, and would represent for Astaldi a full acknowledgement of its accomplishments in the Country and of the Group's leadership at international level and in the sector of urban transportation infrastructure.

The Astaldi Group has been operating in Turkey since 1985 and already built an important stretch of the Istanbul-Ankara motorway, representing a real challenge in terms of design and construction by using the most innovative construction techniques presently available.

As to undergrounds, the Group is presently working on the construction of the Line C of the underground of Rome and of the Line 5 of the underground of Milan, the latter in project finance. The Group is also committed to the construction of new underground lines in Brescia, Naples and Genoa, and already completed meaningful projects in Naples, Rome, Copenhagen and Caracas.

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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 electrical and nuclear 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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