Thales to Provide Digital Communications and Supervision Technologies for Metro Manila’s First Underground Subway

- Thales, in a consortium with Colas Rail (lead) and EGIS, has been awarded a contract worth over €1 billion by Mitsubishi Corporation to design and build the turnkey rail system for the Metro Manila Subway.
- Thales will design and deploy its latest generation of Integrated Communications and Supervision systems, and the Automatic Fare Collection system for a total of €156 million.
- The contract represents Thales’ first major win in the public transport sector in the Philippines and reinforces its position as a leading rail solutions provider in South East Asia.
- The state-of-the-art system, based on digital technologies, will provide an environmentally friendly transport alternative in Manila to improve connectivity as well as reduce congestion and atmospheric pollution in the city.
- Connecting Valenzuela and Parañaque, the new 35-kilometre line will consist of 15 underground stations and will reduce travel time from Quezon City to Taguig to 35 minutes, from close to two hours today.
The Metro Manila Subway is one of the Philippines’ largest infrastructure projects aimed at creating an efficient rail system in the world's most densely populated city. As part of this push for development, construction has begun on a third Mass Rapid Transit line and the metropolis' first underground subway line to connect its northern and southern cities. Thales, together with our partners Colas Rail and Egis, has been awarded a contract worth more than €1 billion. In the frame of this contract, Thales will provide its Integrated Communications and Supervision (ICS) and Automatic Fare Collection (AFC) systems to the project, at a value of €156 million.

Set to connect Valenzuela in the north, to the southern city of Parañaque, the 35 kilometre line will consist of 15 underground stations that will reduce traffic congestion and promote more efficient commuter journeys. The Philippines’ Department of Transportation (DOTr) estimates that the future subway line will reduce travel time from Quezon City to Taguig by two-thirds, from close to two hours today to 35 minutes.

This contract represents Thales’ noteworthy entry into the transportation sector in the Philippines. This is also the first in the Asian region where the latest generation of our Integrated Communications and Supervision solution will be implemented, supported by global expertise from Thales teams in Singapore, Hong Kong, Portugal and France.

Thales will design and develop the integrated and secure communications networks (incl. radio, Multi Service Network, wayside telephone and wireless LAN systems), wayside equipment for security systems (including CCTV and Video Analytics features), passenger information and public address, the digital supervision solution as well as the centralised supervision of energy system (power-SCADA). This state-of-the-art ICS solution is compliant with the highest cybersecurity standards and will offer DOTr the latest digital technologies for an intelligent, sustainable and scalable system that is designed to last. Thales will also provide Automatic Fare Collection as part of its scope in the project.

Thales has built extensive experience in major metro projects in the region over the last decade, with strong local expertise from teams situated all across Asia, collaborating with Thales teams in Europe and North America.

“We are delighted to have been selected, together with our consortium partners, to help modernise Manila’s rapidly-changing urban infrastructure. The Metro Manila Subway will significantly improve mobility for the city’s residents, and we are committed to working with our partners to contribute innovative technology for safer, quicker, and more comfortable journeys. This contract also marks an exciting new chapter for Thales in the Philippines, and further reinforces our leading position in South East Asia for rail solutions for the region’s most complex metro projects. We are proud to bring the latest generation of our Integrated Communications and Supervision systems to the Philippines, and we look forward to helping build a robust transportation network.”

Benoît COUTURE, Vice-President for Integrated Communications and Supervision activities, Thales
About Thales

Thales (Euronext Paris: HO) is a global leader in advanced technologies, investing in digital and “deep tech” innovations – connectivity, big data, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and quantum computing – to build a confident future crucial for the development of our societies. The Group provides its customers – businesses, organisations and governments – in the defense, aeronautics, space, transport, and digital identity and security domains with solutions, services and products that help them fulfil their critical role, consideration for the individual being the driving force behind all decisions.

Thales has 81,000 employees in 68 countries. In 2020 the Group generated sales of €17 billion.