

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## **TRANSDEV is awarded the operation and maintenance contract for the future tramway in Rabat and Salé (Morocco)**

TRANSDEV has been awarded the operation and maintenance contract for the tramway which will link Rabat to Salé in Morocco at the beginning of 2011. The contract for pre-operation and operation of the Rabat-Salé tramway, which comprises the maintenance of the rolling stock and infrastructures, was signed on 20 May 2010 by Société du Tramway Rabat – Salé (STRS), the public concessionary company charged with the design, implementation and follow-up of the tramway operation. This contract, in the amount of 800 million dirhams (approximately 73 million euros) will kick off on 15 June 2010 (pre-operation), for a period of 6 years (as from the commercial launch), renewable for a further 6 years.

The tramway project tallies with the public authorities' aim to create a modal alternative between the cities, one of which has a very high population density (Salé), and the other a hub of economic and administrative activities (Rabat) with a heavy transit axis based on which the bus network, currently operated by Veolia Transport, will be restructured.

Designed to meet the inhabitants' transportation needs but also to redefine the urban environment around the route, this project will help to strengthen the links between the centre of the two cities of the agglomeration, improve quality of life and spaces in the city centre and restructure the urban landscape through the renovation and creation of new living space.

The 20 km long network will be composed of two lines, including a common trunk, with a fleet of 25 65-metre trams operated in double sets, i.e. 50 32-metre long vehicles. The trams will operate at 8 minute intervals (and 4 minutes on the common trunk). Services will operate between 6h00 and 23h00 with the objective of transporting 180,000 passengers per day. The operation of this network will generate the creation of 380 jobs.

Thanks to its know-how in the commissioning of tramway networks without prior reference, i.e. within a framework where everything must be created ex nihilo, the Transdev group will create national references for this project, Morocco's first tramway. Its long experience in partnerships with local authorities enabled Transdev to pitch its offer very close to the expectations of STRS, in particular by proposing a transfer of know-how by training local teams in tramway jobs.

For the past 40 years Africa has experienced record urban growth and on this continent as elsewhere, such rapid urbanisation has led to a concentration of the population in the major cities, thereby multiplying mobility needs. *"The tramway solution offers a modern and innovative response to the strong economic, social and ecological challenges with which the big Moroccan and, more generally, African cities are faced"*, says Joël Lebreton, Chairman and CEO of the Transdev group.

*"At national and regional level, the Transdev group has strong ambitions. We will participate in particular in the invitation to tender for the launch of the Casablanca tramway, scheduled for 2011, as well as the project currently being studied for the Fes agglomeration"*, concludes Dominique Gauthier, Iberia Division Director.

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### About the TRANSDEV Group

- TRANSDEV, the subsidiary of Caisse des Dépôts, is the 4th largest private operator of public transport in Europe.
- Present in 9 countries, in Europe as well as Canada, Morocco and Australia, Transdev provides 2 billion passenger trips per year.
- It deploys its expertise in three complementary areas: the operation of transport networks, setting up and carrying out large projects, and passenger services.
- With 10 tramway networks operated by the group or benefiting from its technical assistance (Grenoble, Madrid, Montpellier, Mulhouse, Nantes, Nottingham, Orléans, Strasbourg, Tenerife, Utrecht), 1 network under construction (Rheims), and a metro system in operation (Genoa), Transdev is a leader in this market.
- The group manages a fleet of over 20,000 vehicles, including 16,000 buses and coaches, 500 trams, 90 metro trains, 30 trains, 110 trolleybuses, 50 river shuttles and more than 4,000 on-demand transport vehicles, a market in which Transdev is the European leader.
- To assist local authorities throughout their projects, Transdev relies on its global control of the travel chain and its unequalled experience in public-private partnerships.
- In 2008, the group generated a consolidated turnover of 2,513 billion euros and employs a staff of 30,240 people.