

UAE Welcomes First Train at Mussafah Port

- Locomotives are designed to withstand the challenging climate and geography of the region -

Al Mansoori: "The first train is set to operate from Habshan to Ruwais by end of year"

Abu Dhabi, UAE 10 April, 2013: Etihad Rail – the developer and operator of the UAE’s national railway network – today announced the arrival at Mussafah Port of the first two of seven locomotives to be shipped to the UAE.

The locomotives arrived as construction on Stage One of the UAE’s national rail project is well underway. The two locomotives are the first rolling stock to arrive since the delivery of the company’s batch of wagons last December, together with which will form the UAE’s first trains.

The locomotives, which hold the train’s engines, will be moved to Etihad Rail’s site at Mirfa in the Western Region in preparation for the impending launch of Stage One, which will facilitate the transport of granulated sulphur from sources in Shah and Habshan to the port of Ruwais for export. Electro-Motive Diesel, a U.S.-based company and a world leader in the production of diesel-electric locomotives, designed and manufactured the locomotives for Etihad Rail.

Commenting on the arrival of the locomotives, H.E. Dr. Nasser Al Mansoori, CEO of Etihad Rail, said: "The arrival of these locomotives is a remarkable step forward and another indicator that we are fast approaching the commencement of operations for Stage One. The project is progressing on schedule and we are on track to see the first train run between Habshan and Ruwais by the end of this year. This achievement would not have been possible without the dedication and collaborative efforts of all parties working together towards the mutual goal of developing a national railway network that will change the face of transportation in the UAE and the wider GCC."

Mohamed Al Shamisi, Acting CEO, ADPC, and Chairman of Abu Dhabi Terminals (ADT) commented: "ADPC congratulates Etihad Rail on the delivery of their locomotives, which

reflects the progress being made on the railway's development. We look forward to working with the company to develop Abu Dhabi's world-class infrastructure, integrating Abu Dhabi's ports and rail network as part of Stage Two of the rail project."

"ADT successfully managed the arrival of Etihad Rail's wagons, and we are proud to be playing a key role again with the delivery of the locomotives for the national railway network, supporting the development of the UAE's strategic national infrastructure." said Al Shamisi.

The SD70ACS locomotive is service-proven, having successfully operated in the most challenging operating conditions globally. Designed to withstand the region's arduous climate and geography, the model features the latest technologies that reduce carbon emissions, aligned with Etihad Rail's commitment to deliver a mode of transport that is efficient, reliable and environmentally friendly than alternative modes of transport. The exterior of the locomotives showcase Etihad Rail's brand and incorporate the colours of the UAE's flag as a symbol of national pride and unity. The unique design is dominated by grey with strikethrough wide red lines and the Etihad Rail logo in the centre.

Upon completion, the Etihad Rail network will extend approximately 1,200 km across the Emirates, catering to both freight and passengers. It will connect urban and remote communities, facilitate trade, open up communication channels and foster economic development. The network will also form a vital part of the GCC Railway Network – linking the UAE to Saudi Arabia via Ghweifat in the west and Oman via Al Ain in the east.

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Notes to the editors:

About Etihad Rail

Etihad Rail was established in June 2009 under Federal Law no. 2, with a mandate to manage the development, construction and operation of the UAE's national freight and passenger railway network.

The railway network will be built in phases to link the principal centres of population and industry of the UAE, as well as to form a vital part of the planned GCC railway network linking the six countries of the GCC.

Built to international standards, Etihad Rail's state of the art network will act as a catalyst for economic growth and sustained social development. Once complete, the railway will redefine logistics and transport in the region, providing a modern, safe, efficient, sustainable network that will connect all regions of the UAE, and the UAE to its wider GCC neighbouring countries.

Etihad Rail has recently announced a number of contract awards for Stage One of the rail network including:

- The Civil & Track Works contract was awarded to a consortium comprising Italy's Saipem, Tecnimont and UAE-based Dodsai Engineering and Construction
- The Project Management Consultant (PMC) contract which was awarded to joint venture Parsons-Aecom
- PCM Strescon Ventures was awarded the contract for the provision of railway sleepers. The Indian-based company will be responsible for the provision of railway sleepers in a purpose-built sleeper manufacturing facility at our rail head
- Electro-Motive Diesel, from North America, was assigned to deliver seven locomotives custom-built for desert conditions by 2012
- CSR Corporation Limited China was appointed to supply 240 covered hopper wagons for the movement of granulated sulphur in the Western Region

Etihad Rail has also signed several Memorandums of Understanding with the following companies:

- DP World, for the development of an intermodal rail terminal in Jebel Ali Port which will enable the more efficient transfer of containerised freight arriving at the port inland
- Centre of Waste Management – Abu Dhabi, who will use the network as a vital component in its future sustainable waste transport system, integrating the network into its plans to convert waste into energy and using Etihad Rail's custom-made rail concepts to centralise its services and facilities
- Sharjah Cement Factory, for the efficient transport of basic raw materials, and cement to its customers throughout the UAE
- DHL, who will use the rail network as soon as Etihad Rail's second stage is operational, helping DHL first and foremost with connections between Jebel Ali in Dubai and Ghweifat at the Saudi Arabian border, and subsequently assisting with transportation across the rest of the Emirates
- Aramex, who will utilise the rail network for deliveries across the UAE and for cross-border service to other countries in the GCC
- HOYER Global Transport BV, who will be working with Etihad Rail to develop a safe and sustainable bulk liquid transportation system across the UAE, and linking to the GCC
- Global Shipping & Logistics, the Dubai-based logistics company who will use the Etihad Rail network for cold chain services

- Arkan and Emirates Steel, leading manufacturers who seek to use rail as the main method of transportation for their raw and finished materials
- Al Dahra Agriculture Company, who plan to use rail as a more efficient means of transporting hay as soon as Etihad Rail's second stage is operational
- Sharaf Logistics, a world class Dubai-based services provider of supply chain solutions with a strong history in maritime and container shipping, who will use the network to transport its customers' goods
- Etisalat and Du, whose expertise in telecommunications services will benefit Etihad Rail while both companies gain access to and use of the railway infrastructure to magnify their growing network and customer base in the UAE

For more information, please visit the Etihad Rail website at: www.etihadrail.ae

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