

The inauguration of Riyadh's automatic metro network marks the completion of one of SYSTRA's most ambitious urban projects

Paris, 29 November 2024. The Riyadh Metro was officially inaugurated on 27 November 2024 by His Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud. The six lines of this new automatic metro network will be gradually brought into service between 1 December 2024 and 5 January 2025. This ambitious project, the largest metro network to be commissioned in a single phase, will transform the daily lives for millions in the Kingdom's capital city. This inauguration marks the culmination of over a decade of work by SYSTRA teams on this project.

The SYSTRA Group, in partnership with Parsons and Egis as part of the Riyadh Metro Transit Consultants (RMTTC) consortium, is honoured to have participated in the commissioning of the first 3 lines of this driverless automatic metro network, which will comprise 6 lines and serve the whole of the Riyadh metropolitan area.

Jean-Charles Vollery, SYSTRA CEO, said: "The inauguration marked a historic day for Riyadh, which brings to life its first automatic metro system, and for SYSTRA, whose teams have been working on the project since August 2013. This is a major transformation for the Kingdom's capital city, which is acquiring one of the most modern metro networks in the world. Through this project, we are very proud to be contributing to the Kingdom's ambitious Vision 2030 and its transition towards more sustainable mobility."

6 lines open almost simultaneously

Starting December 1st, users of the first three opened lines will be able to use nearly 60% of the final network, i.e. close to 100km of automatic driverless lines serving 46 stations, with tracks in tunnels, viaducts, on the surface and in covered trenches. The opening of the other three lines of the network, totalling 176km of track and 85 stations, will take place as planned, progressively until 5 January 2025.

This new network, made up of 6 lines opening almost simultaneously, will considerably change the day-to-day transport for the millions of residents in the capital city. With a planned maximum capacity of 3.6 million passengers daily, the network in its entirety will feature a total of 19 park-and-ride facilities, built as close as possible to key points to encourage a modal shift from the car to public transport.

SYSTRA at the service of a fast-growing capital city

Since August 2013, SYSTRA has been involved in a Project Management Construction Management (PMCM) assignment, the scope of which includes project management assistance, design, project management and supervision of the construction of the network's Blue, Red and Orange lines (Lines 1, 2 and 3). The project is being carried out on behalf of the Royal Commission for Riyadh City (RCRC).

The engineering group is also already involved in other projects, including the Vision 2030 programme, which are transforming the Saudi metropolis:

- The monorail in Riyadh's KAFD business district,
- The Qiddiya light rail system,
- The Qiddiya cable transport network,
- The expansion of Riyadh Stadium in preparation for the 2027 Asian Cup of Nations football tournament,
- Support for property developer ROSHN and the Saudi Authority for the industrial cities of Modon,

SYSTRA, a key player in all forms of mobility in Saudi Arabia

SYSTRA has been working with Saudi Arabia since 1987 to create transport networks throughout the Kingdom, particularly in Riyadh, Jeddah, Medina and Mecca. Having been involved in major metro, rail freight, planning and transport consultancy projects, SYSTRA is now fully mobilised to meet the ambitions of the Kingdom's Vision 2030 development plan.

SYSTRA's teams are currently working in Mecca to update the feasibility study for its metro network and to build a Bus Rapid Transit system. They are also contributing to the design of the future tramway in AlUla, a historic city in the north-west of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They are also carrying out assignments for the Obhur multimodal bridge on the outskirts of Jeddah, for the NEOM project, and for the construction of the North-South rail line, dedicated to freight and passenger transport. Our teams have also signed a long-term partnership with Saudi National Railways (SAR). SYSTRA's major contribution to these large-scale projects makes it a leading partner of the Saudi authorities in the field of mobility.

About SYSTRA

SYSTRA is one of the world's leading engineering and consulting groups specialised in public transport and mobility solutions. For more than 65 years, it has been committed to helping towns, cities and regions grow by creating, improving and modernising their transport infrastructures.

With over 11,000 employees, SYSTRA's mission is to fluidify travel worldwide, bring people closer together, and facilitate access to employment, healthcare, education and leisure.

As a trusted name in transport solutions, SYSTRA supports its partners and clients throughout the entire lifecycle of the projects it undertakes.

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