



Rueil-Malmaison, 21 September 2001

Press release

VINCI wins major contract to build structures on Channel Tunnel Rail Link

VINCI has just been awarded, in joint venture with the UK contractor Miller Engineering, contract 310 for structures on the Channel Tunnel Rail Link, which will make travel possible between Paris and London in 2h20 at speeds of 300 kph.

Union Rail, the private concession company for the CTRL, and the contracting authority, selected VINCI Construction Major Projects to build the 13.8km section in the eastern suburbs of London.

The contract comprises:

- Thurrock viaduct, a 1,075 long bridge inside London, to be fitted under the Elizabeth II suspension bridge and above the viaducts that exit from the M25 tunnels under the Thames. This will be an incrementally launched bridge using a technical variant proposed by VINCI Construction Major Projects.
- Two viaducts 675m and 533m long respectively with a composite steel/concrete deck
- 6,700 metres of road on piled concrete slab, including 4,500 metres laid on an embankment and 2,200 metres on columns (using a technical variant involving bolted piles proposed by VINCI Construction Major Projects).
- 14 other crossings (rail bridges, road or pedestrian over and underpasses)
- supporting walls, earthworks and various restoration works
- rail track works for a number of modified junctions (a total of 7,000m to be laid in all, including associated signalling).

The contract has been signed on a cost-fee basis, meaning a target cost and incentives for the contractor based on savings or overruns, and is scheduled to last for 37 months, with a value of £180m or €288m. Works will begin in January 2002.

The deal was reached just as VINCI Construction Major Projects completed ahead of time two other contracts on the same project (nos. 350 and 410), the Medway viaduct and the North Downs tunnel, for Union Rail.

Press contact : Pierre COPPEY

Phone. : +33 1 47 16 30 07

Fax : +33 1 47 16 33 88

e-mail : pcoppey@vinci.com

*This release is available in English, French and German
on the VINCI Website : www.groupe-vinci.com*