

**\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\***

## **Industry speakers offer insights ahead of SmartRail Asia Congress & Expo**

**26/08/14:** A host of Asian rail and metro experts are confirmed as speaking at SmartRail Asia. These experts will be leading three days of expert insight, practical case studies, in-depth discussion, technology launches, workshops, site visits and networking at BITEC in Bangkok between the 26-28<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

We asked some of our speakers for quick insights into what subjects or trends within the rail industry they'll be speaking about at SmartRail Asia.

### **Developments in Thailand...**

*"There is a massive opportunity for further rail development in Thailand. We are already seeing developments in the revised Infrastructure Bill and the recent double tracking announcement. Thailand already has a very strong rail system and I'm excited to see it grow further. People described the economy in Thailand as being 'Teflon' – in that it has overcome a coup, a financial crisis and the flood in recent years, and still continues to develop. There's no better example of the continued growth and potential of Thailand than in its rail sector."* **Marc Spiegel, Regional Managing Director at Vinarco International.**

### **Asian Potential...**

*"Asia is home to more than half the world's population.... Cities are expanding and car ownership is rising fast which can result in gridlock. Rail offers a solution as seen in the success and ridership of the many metro lines operating, but the rail network is not expanding at the same pace as the cities."* **Joffrey Lauthier, Head of Sales Asia-Pacific, Bombardier Transportation**

### **Regional trends...**

*"Presently, rail infrastructure in China ranks among one of the most complete and comprehensive systems worldwide. Southeast Asia is the gateway to the south connecting the main land to the Indian Ocean. India, the second most populated area and a neighbouring country south of China is also growing at an astounding rate. Countries in this region will certainly follow this trend. They should and will develop rail infrastructure to catch up with rapid economic development in the region...Therefore, the future of rail in Asia is brightest of all transport modes in the region!"* **Kunchit Phiu-Nual, former Advisor to Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning (OTP) and consultant on rail projects in Thailand.**

Created with the help of an advisory board including Alstom, Bombardier Transportation, MTR and Thales, SmartRail Asia is the definitive platform to share best practice and drive towards an intelligent next generation rail system and is now open for business.

To interview any of our speakers, or request a press pass, please contact: Angelica Lecart  
[angelica.lecart@globaltransportforum.com](mailto:angelica.lecart@globaltransportforum.com)

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### **Notes for Editors**

**About SmartRail Asia:** This three day event offers attendees a unique insight into developing an integrated rail network for Asia and has been created with the innovative collaboration of our expert, globally-respected Advisory Board. Our exclusive event incorporates Signalling and Train

Control, Railway Telecommunications and unique Free-to-Attend Seminars on Passenger Information, WiFi and I.T. The event builds on previous Global Transport Forum events and SmartRail Europe and SmartRail USA. For more on SmartRail Asia: [www.smartrailexpo-asia.com](http://www.smartrailexpo-asia.com)

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