



PRESS RELEASE

ASTM CONSOLIDATES ITS PRESENCE IN PPP MOTORWAY PROJECTS IN THE USA

**THE ASTM GROUP PRE-QUALIFIES FOR THE “CAPITAL BELTWAY” TENDER
IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND**

This refers to a PPP project for the construction of additional new toll lanes, with the relative management for 50 years, on an initial stretch of approximately 60 km of the “Capital Beltway”, the motorway system connecting the city of Washington.

The ASTM Group has already pre-qualified in the USA for another project related to the construction and management of a stretch of the “SR 400 Express Lane” motorway in Georgia, which forms part of the road system around the city of Atlanta.

Tortona, 24 June 2020. As part of its international growth plan, the ASTM Group has pre-qualified in the United States for a PPP project in the State of Maryland for the modernisation, construction and relative 50-year operation of additional new toll lanes on an initial 60 km section of the “Capital Beltway”, a motorway system which connects the city of Washington D.C.

This was announced by the client, the Maryland Department of Transportation. Three other international consortia were admitted to the final phase.

The final stage of the tender was very selective, rewarding groups for their technical skills, expertise in managing Public-Private Partnership initiatives, as well as their financial capacity.

This pre-qualification represents a further step in the Group’s growth process in the USA: ASTM has in fact already pre-qualified for another project related to the construction and management of a stretch of the “SR 400 Express Lane” motorway in Georgia, which forms part of the road system around the city of Atlanta.

Access to the final stage of two significant infrastructure projects in the USA PPP motorway sector, where ASTM is the only Italian player, recognises the direction the Group embarked on some years ago with the acquisition of Halmar International, one of the leading transport infrastructure companies in the New York metropolitan area, providing an authoritative entry into the American market and creating a platform to study and assess the main projects underway, based on the experience gained.

The American PPP project market is growing constantly and the Group continues to monitor all the important opportunities being put forward in the motorway infrastructure sector.

The United States represents an important growth area for the Group similar to Brazil, a country where the Group, through Ecorodovias, is looking at the new privatisation programme in the transport infrastructure sector promoted by the Government, which in the motorway sector alone, envisages investments for approximately 147 billion Reais in coming years.



The strategic development plan also continues in Europe and Italy.

ASTM has also pre-qualified for a Norwegian tender on a 25-year concession project to plan, build and manage a motorway stretch of approximately 10 km, which will involve building a 900 m long suspension bridge in the south of the country near the city of Bergen.

In Italy, the Group has recently acquired a full majority stake in Sitaf holding around 67% of the licensee company's share capital either directly or indirectly, for the Frejus tunnel, expiring in 2050.

The Sitaf investment acknowledges the importance of Italy for the Group, and the strategic role that infrastructure represents in relaunching the country's economy.

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