

PRESS RELEASE

Porto LRT, a SENER project, receives award for sustainable urban planning from Harvard University

Boston, November 11th, 2013 - The Porto Light Rail Train (LRT) has been awarded the [Veronica Rudge Green Prize](#), granted every two years by the School of Design at Harvard University to projects that stand out for their excellence in sustainable urban planning. The engineering and technology group [SENER](#) has been one of the key players in this project, since it has been involved in all phases of the metro network development process as the company responsible for services ranging from technical assistance to its construction and commissioning.

SENER, with an office in Lisbon since 1991, led the ENSITRANS joint venture, in charge for the direction of the technical assistance provided to the company Metro do Porto, S.A. Therefore, SENER was one of the key project partners, as it carried out tasks from the preparation of the preliminary studies (in 1994) to the election of the system, the drafting of the basic project and the technical specifications sheet, the evaluation of contractors' offers and the subsequent negotiation with the shortlisted firms, the monitoring and review of the construction projects, the project management, the tunnel construction and, finally, the commissioning of the line; it also advised Metro do Porto, S.A. in matters related to the system certification process.

In addition, between 2006 and 2010, SENER also participated in the monitoring of the operation and maintenance of the entire metro network operated by the consortium Normetro and was awarded the contract to develop the technical assistance for the second construction phase of this metro project. This latter work has included the review of the construction projects and the launch of bids (for both project and execution of works) as well as the supervision of the execution of civil engineering works, the fixed equipment and the operation and maintenance.

[Porto LRT](#), in operation since 2002, links seven municipalities of the Porto Metropolitan Area, has connections with the major bus and rail networks and reaches also Pedras Rubras international airport. Annually, it moves about 55 million passengers in its four lines, with a total length of seventy kilometers including 63 surface stations and 14 underground stations. The network combines sections on surface, with tracks over shared or segregated platforms, and underground sections, having seven kilometers of tunnels.

From the outset, the system was designed with the aim to become a factor of urban renewal and regeneration. For this reason, its contribution to the preservation of Porto, a city that is included in UNESCO'S list of World Heritage, has been highlighted, being also noteworthy its contribution to the improvement in the conditions of life of its inhabitants as well as in the integration of isolated areas.

In this sense, SENER'S team of architects and city planners designed the urban implementation of the LRT lines all along their length, determined the alignment and position of platforms and stations. They specified also the criteria to be followed in future extensions of the system.

The quality of the project has been recognized previously; in particular, in June 2008, the system received from the International Association of Public Transport (UITP) the [Light Rail Award - Best New System](#), which distinguishes the creativity and design of light rail systems around the world.

For more information:



SENER is a leading company in the field of [Infrastructures and Transport](#) carrying out technologically advanced and value-adding projects. Its portfolio of references includes worldwide projects in railways, urban transport systems, airports, roads, stations, ports, maritime infrastructure, hydraulic works, architecture and urban planning, which are an example of sustainability and integration. In this sense, SENER's aim is to design and develop excellent projects that exceed the client's expectations and that, in addition, provide improvements in the quality of life of the people in its immediate environment.

About SENER

SENER is a private engineering and technology group founded in 1956, which seeks to offer its clients state-of-the-art technological solutions and which enjoys international recognition, thanks to its independence and its commitment to innovation and quality. SENER has a workforce of about 5,500 professionals and an operating income of 1,175 billion Euros (2012 figures).

SENER engages in the specific activities of Engineering and Construction and also holds industrial company shares in firms involved in the field of Energy and Environment, as well as in Aeronautics. In the Engineering and Construction area, SENER has become a worldwide benchmark company in Aerospace, Infrastructures and Transport, Power and Process and Marine.

SENER has offices in Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, India, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Portugal, South Korea, Spain, United Arab Emirates and United States.

About the Veronica Rudge Green Prize

The Veronica Rudge Green Prize was created in 1986 to mark the 350th anniversary of the founding of Harvard University and the fiftieth jubilee of its School of Design. The nominations for this biennial award are submitted by university departments and urban planning professionals. The award recognizes urban planning projects developed around the world in a broad sense, that is, taking into consideration much more than a single building or an open space.

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