



MEDIA RELEASE

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GAUTRAIN: AFRICAN SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS UNIQUE DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

As the first ever rapid rail system for Africa and one of the biggest infrastructure projects in South Africa, Gautrain has become a symbol of pride, prosperity and progress for the continent.

These are the words of Jack van Merwe, CEO of the Gautrain Management Agency. Van der Merwe will address a media conference on 9 June from 15:00 at the 58th UITP World Congress. Gautrain will participate in the UITP World Congress and Mobility & City Transport Exhibition.

In an environment where public transport is often seen as an unreliable option, Gautrain has developed innovative solutions in order to attract sceptical car users. In addition, the province of Gauteng has experienced an economic and population boom which necessitated a rethink on integrated transport infrastructure and spatial development. Simultaneously, social and environmental threats such as inner city decay, a high rate of unemployment, urban sprawl and carbon emissions caused by private cars are all concerns which Gautrain's strategic objectives have to address.

"We recognised the unique challenges that our region faces. Gautrain will become a benchmark for how to implement the best in global technology today while devising innovative local solutions that are customised for Africa and her people," says Van Der Merwe.

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