

International experts participate in Bilbao in a conference on subways

- **Bilbao hosts, from the 23rd to the 27th of June, the "International Railway Conference on Urban Public Transportation: Subways and Trams" to discuss the importance of these networks, as well as some of the major projects that are to be performed in the coming years.**
- **This convention, organized by MAFEX in collaboration with ICEX- Spain Export and Investment, takes place in a key projection of the Spanish railway industry in the world at the moment.**
- **Railway companies of our country have been part of the 60 most relevant subway projects in recent years in more than 38 countries on five continents. Among the most recent, due to its strategic importance, are those of Riyadh, Doha, Panama or New Delhi.**

Madrid, June 23rd, 2014.- The Spanish Railway Association (MAFEX), in collaboration with ICEX Spain-Export and Investment, will gather in Bilbao from June 23rd to the 27th, a large group of railway experts from around the world that will discuss the future of metro and tram networks.

The International Railway Conference "Urban Public Transportation: Subways and Trams" aims to learn more about the progress of this type of networks in major cities of the world and its importance as a mean of communication in urban centers. In addition, the event will be used to analyse some of the major projects that will be launched in the coming years. To do this, it will be attended, among others, by managers and representatives of the metros of Almaty (Kazakhstan), Cairo (Egypt), Lima (Peru), Panama (Panama), Singapore (Singapore), Istanbul (Turkey), Algiers (Algeria), as well as representatives from trams like the one in Tel Aviv (Israel). They will explain the opportunities that these transport networks represent for the development of their respective cities and the need for its implementation with the latest technology and specialized solutions such as the one provided by the Spanish industry.

The agenda of the conference will be complemented by a round of individual meetings between international experts and representatives of the companies in our country, as well as technical visits to Bilbao's Metro and Tram and several facilities and factories from participating companies.

The conference also has the support of the Basque Agency for Enterprise Development, SPRI, Euskotren, Metro Bilbao, ETS and the Bilbao Tram.

Spanish companies, at the head of metro and tram projects in the world

The Spanish railway industry occupies one of the first places in the international list of companies specializing in the railway sector in charge of the construction, equipment and supply of rolling stock for metro networks. Its highly specialized and technological contributions have helped these companies to be among the top 60 metro and tram projects that have been launched in recent years in more than 38 countries.

**About MAFEX*

The objective of the Spanish Railway Association (MAFEX) is to carry out promotional activities in other countries, as well as to defend their general interests.

Created in 2004, it currently has 71 members representing more than 85% of Spanish rail industry's exports, according to official figures in 2012. Known as the official collaborating organization of the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness through its Subsecretariat of Trade, the Association is supported by GRUPO AGEX, to which it belongs, and by different national and international organizations and institutions.

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