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UIC and ONCF Next Station conference 2015: station is the heart of developing cities

(Paris, 21 August 2015) The International Union of Railways, UIC, and Moroccan Railways, ONCF, with the support of Supratours Travel and Europoint are organizing the 5th edition of the Next Station Conference in Marrakesh, on 21-22 October 2015.

A public transport terminal is no longer just an arrival and departure point; it plays an important role in developing cities. The station area is a place to live, a place to work and a place to socialise. The importance of these areas will continue to increase in the future according to General-Manager Jean-Pierre Loubinoux of the International Union of Railways (UIC).

The locations and number of stations should always be considered in the development of railways lines. Loubinoux provides an example of the development of railways in the State of Rio de Janeiro. "In Brazil there are many factors to consider. As high-speed lines are developed it is important to create links to provide easy access to them." In Brazil there is a plan to link the cities of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo with the Trem de Alta Velocidade Rio-São Paulo.

High-speed line

A similar situation exists in Morocco where work is ongoing to link the cities of Casablanca and Tangier with a high-speed line. This is where the three-day NEXTSTATION rail event will be hosted. "Morocco is a country where there is much ongoing rail development. In addition to the high speed line, work continues on freight lines, network electrification and the development of new stations".

One of the newly developed stations has been completed at the Casa Port Station in Casablanca. Last November the new station hall opened providing an area of 33,500 square meters. In comparison the hall section of Utrecht Central will be 25,000 square meters when completed in 2016. Casa Port Station is designed to handle 20 million passengers per year and almost 5,000 passengers per hour at peak times. Traditional Moroccan architecture is combined with modern design to create a unique station concept.

<http://nextstation2015.com/Registration>

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