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Bilfinger Berger to build 10-kilometer of tunnel for high-speed ICE rail line in Thuringia

Bilfinger Berger has been commissioned by Deutsche Bahn to lead a consortium for the construction of three tunnel structures with a total length of around 10 kilometers, part of the new high-speed ICE rail line in Thuringia. Total volume amounts to €290 million, 40% of which is accounted for by Bilfinger Berger.

At the core of the project is the 7.5-kilometer long Silberberg Tunnel, the largest single investment of the 100-kilometer long new rail line section between the Bavarian town of Ebensfeld and Erfurt, the state capital of Thuringia. The tunnel's security concept includes eight emergency exits no more than 1,000 meters apart, which lead outside through a gallery running parallel to the tunnel. In addition, the joint venture led by Bilfinger Berger will build the Brandkopf and Lohmeberg Tunnels with a total length of 2.5 kilometers. The dual-track tubes will be built primarily using the drill and blast method, individual sections will be constructed using excavator driving. The drive has been designed as hard-surfaced roadway for speeds up to 300 kilometers per hour.

The new Thuringia rail line is part of the German Unity Transport Project No. 8 and will significantly cut travel times between Nuremberg and Berlin. Commissioning will take place section by section in the years 2015 to 2017.

Bilfinger Berger generates an output volume of over €10 billion with 60,000 employees around the globe. The Group is a leading provider of services for industrial facilities, power plants and buildings. Bilfinger Berger also designs and builds major infrastructure projects and offers its clients a comprehensive range of services covering all phases in the lifecycle of real-estate properties. In addition, the Group acts as private partner to the public sector, developing transport and social infrastructure on the basis of long-term concession contracts.