



WORLD NEWS

EVENTS DIARY

**2016
International Rental
Conference China**
November 21
Shanghai, China
www.khl.com/irc

Bauma China
November 22 – 25
Shanghai, China
www.bauma-china.com

Bauma ConExpo India
Dec 12-15, 2016
Delhi, India
www.bcindia.com

**2017
World of Concrete**
January 17 – 20, 2017
Las Vegas, USA
www.worldofconcrete.com

Samoter
February 22 – 25, 2017
Verona, Italy
www.samoter.it

ConExpo-Con/Agg
March 7 – 11, 2017
Las Vegas, US
www.conexpoconagg.com

SMOPYC
April 4 – 7, 2017
Zaragoza, Spain
www.smopyc.es

**APEX
(International Access
Equipment Exhibition)**
May 2-4, 2017
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
www.apexshow.com

**International Rental
Exhibition
(IRE)**
May 2-4, 2017
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
www.IREshow.com

Plantworx 2017
June 6-8, 2017
Bruntingthorpe, UK
www.plantworx.co.uk

BICES 2017
Sept 2017 (Dates TBC)
Beijing, China
www.e-bices.org

ECUADOR Construction of what will be the world's highest metro system – Metro de Quito – is underway in Quito, Ecuador. The first line will stretch over 20 km through the capital of Ecuador, 2,800 m above sea level. The line will also see 15 metro stations built en route. The tunnel alignment of the Metro Line 1 will run at a depth of 20 to 25 m below the city. Once completed, the metro is expected to significantly ease traffic congestion in the city, transporting 350,000 people per day. Tunnel boring machines (TBMs) from German manufacturers Herrenknecht and Schwanau will be used to excavate the tunnels. Herrenknecht has also used two earth pressure balance (EPB) shields, which will work their way through the volcanic ground. EPB shields turn the excavated material into a soil paste that is used as pliable, plastic support medium.

**SOMALILAND
US\$ 440 m
port deal**

Global ports operator DP World has signed an agreement to develop a new commercial port at Berbera, in the Federal Republic of Somaliland. The Dubai-based firm will invest up to US\$ 442 million for a 65% stake in the first phase of the project, which will include a 400 m quay and a 250,000 m² container yard, as well as gantry cranes and reach stackers. The government of the breakaway republic will fund the remainder of the project. The agreement stipulates that DP World will run the port for a minimum 30-year period. The republic's government says the port will be a regional hub, to improve the economy of the country which has the fourth-lowest GDP per capita in the world. DP World chairman, Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, said, Investment in this natural deep-water port will attract more shipping lines to East Africa and its modernisation will act as a catalyst for the growth of the country and the region's economy."

**BRAZIL
Camargo
Corrêa for sale**

Camargo Corrêa, one of the largest construction companies in Brazil, is up for sale, with Chinese construction giant CCCC reportedly interested in buying the offered 100% stake. The information was disclosed in the Brazilian business press this week. Sources at Camargo Corrêa were cited, but no names were given. The sources claim there is definite interest in the purchase from CCCC. The Camargo Corrêa group has suffered since its conviction for criminal activities connected with the construction of the Abreu e Lima refinery, owned by Petrobras. As a result of the police investigation, a number of the company's board members were arrested, and subsequent lawsuits have destabilised the company financially. While CCCC is the frontrunner in the proposed sale, it is reported that French and Spanish firms have also shown an interest in the family-owned company.

**LAOS
China Rail in
Laos link**

China Railway Group (CRG) has signed a RMB 8.1 billion (US\$ 1.2 billion) agreement to build the first three sections of the Boten-Vientiane Railway Project. When completed the 414 km line will run from Boten, on Laos' northern border with China, to the country's capital, Vientiane, on the border with Thailand in the south. The single-track electrified mixed traffic line will be suitable for 160 km/h passenger and 120 km/h freight services, and the line will include 31 stations. The 60-month project will be undertaken by three subsidiaries of CRG; it follows the awarding last year of a RMB 2.3 billion (US\$ 344 million) rail project in Laos, to another of its subsidiary companies. Chenyi Lu, a senior analyst at credit rating firm Moody's, said the deal was "credit positive," adding, "The award demonstrates the group's strong capabilities with cutting-edge technologies in railway, bridge and tunnel construction to win large-scale and complex projects overseas."