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 Contact: see below



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Serco joins SNC-Lavalin as preferred bidder for Canadian rapid rail transit line

Serco Group plc's North American division, Serco Group Inc, ("Serco") has joined SNC-Lavalin Inc., the preferred bidder for a proposed rapid rail transit line in Vancouver, Canada, as partner for the operations and management (O & M) of the project.

The SNC-Lavalin/Serco proposal is for a fully automated, driverless, system which would connect Vancouver, Richmond and Vancouver international airport, "RAV Project".

SNC-Lavalin will be responsible for the design, construction of the line and the management of the funding aspects of the contract

Construction is expected to take five years, after which Serco and SNC-Lavalin would operate and maintain the line under a 30 year agreement. This O & M part of the contract is expected to generate annual revenues of between C\$16m and C\$20m for Serco, which is estimated to be some C\$500m over the life of the contract.

Christopher Hyman, Chief Executive of Serco Group plc said: "We are delighted to join SNC-Lavalin as preferred bidder for the operations and management of the RAV Project. The contract is significant for Serco as it will be the company's first rail operating contract in North America, building on our international light rail services including the Docklands Light Railway in London, Metrolink in Manchester and the Metro in Copenhagen, Denmark."

- Ends -

For further information please contact Serco Group plc on +44 (0) 1256 745 900:

Dominic Cheetham, Corporate Communications Director
 Richard Hollins, Head of Investor Relations

- Serco is one of the world's leading service companies operating on an international basis in a diverse range of sectors, including transport and traffic management, justice, aerospace, science, health, education and local government.
- In December 2004 Serco was named as Britain's most admired support services company and 6th most admired British company overall in the Management Today magazine survey.

Serco Group plc
 Serco House, 16 Bartley Wood Business Park
 Bartley Way, Hook, Hampshire
 RG27 9UY, United Kingdom

T +44 (0)1256 745900
 F +44 (0)1256 744111

Serco Group Pty Limited
 Level 10, 90 Arthur Street
 North Sydney, NSW 2060
 Australia

T +61 (0)2 9964 9733
 F +61 (0)2 9964 9924

Serco Group, Inc.
 20 E Clementon Road, Suite 102 South
 Gibbstown, New Jersey 08026
 United States

T +1 856 346 8800
 F +1 856 346 8463

- Serco was named as Best Light Rail/Metro operator (2000), Best UK Operator (2001 and 2002), and Best London Suburban Operator (2003 and 2004) in the UK National Rail Awards for its Docklands Light Railway operations.
- Montreal-based SNC-Lavalin, one of the world's leading engineering and construction companies.