

# NEWSLETTER



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CELTIC ROADS GROUP DUNDALK

## The Dundalk Western Bypass PPP Scheme

This Project has been awarded to CRGM1 by the NRA on February 5<sup>th</sup> 2004 and forms part of the strategic north-south road corridor entitled 'Euroroute EO1', linking the capital cities of Dublin and Belfast and providing access to the main commercial seaports and international airports. The Project includes the construction of a new 11 km section of the motorway including 13 principal structures to bypass Dundalk and extending from the current end of the motorway on the south side of Dundalk town to Ballymascanlan Roundabout on the northern side. The Works also include certain Upgrade Works to be carried out to the Existing Road. In addition CRGM1 takes over the operation of the existing motorway from Gormanston in Co. Meath to Dundalk.

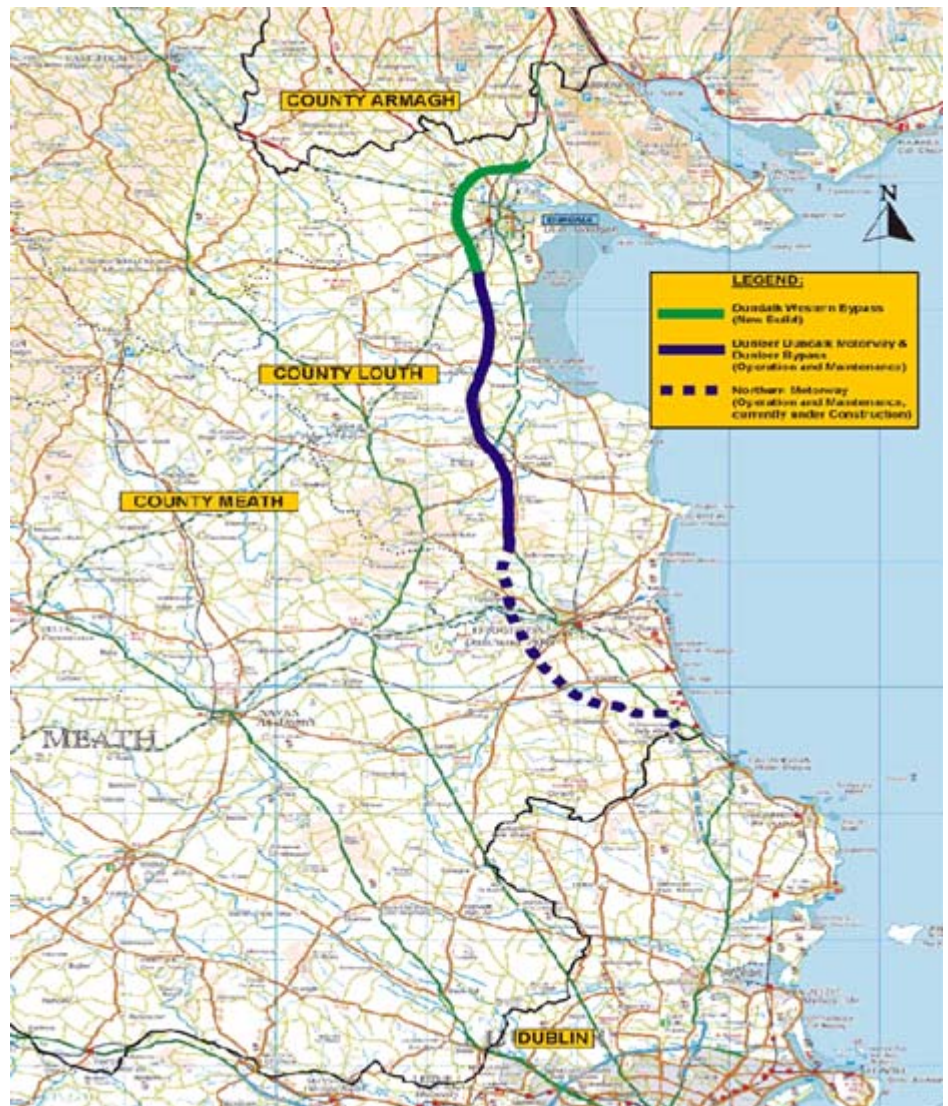
The motorway currently bypasses Drogheda and when completed will also bypass Dundalk. Traffic congestion within these towns will consequently be reduced as will the journey times between Northern Ireland, Dundalk, Drogheda and Dublin. The Project is being procured by the Irish Government under their Public Private Partnership Programme ("PPP").

The construction and development phase is anticipated to take

2½ years in total although this is effectively 2 years as the last 6 months contains minor levels of work/expenditure.

The contract duration is 30 years from contract award February 5<sup>th</sup> 2004. The Project is

fully funded through the collection of tolls on the existing toll plazas located south of the Boyne Bridge.



# INTRODUCING THE PPP COMPANY

## Celtic Roads Group (Dundalk) Ltd



### THE PPP SCHEME



## DRAGADOS DUNDALK IRELAND Ltd



Dragados Dundalk Ireland Ltd is a fully owned subsidiary of ACS Dragados Group. Established in Spain, ACS Dragados Group is now the leading contractor in that Country. The Group has built over 2,500km of motorways and toll roads, 4,000km of highways, 2,500 bridges, 100 dams, over 100km of breakwaters and wharves, over 500,000 homes, more than 20M sqm of non-residential buildings, and a number of off-shore rigs. ACS Dragados now employs over 60,000 people with operations and projects across the world.

ACS Dragados Group is the market leader in the international league of transportation facilities operators being recognised by Public Works Financing since 1994 as the Transportation Developers World Leader being active in four continents and always generating maximum synergies with local companies. At present, ACS Dragados Group and Abertis have 27 transport concessions in 12 different countries, including more than 1,500 km of railway network, 1,300 km of motorways, 15 international airports and eight harbours. This has allowed the group to acquire great experience and deep knowledge of all possible financing sources. In these concessions, the Group had worked not only with the main private investors, but also with multilateral agencies and all kinds of organisations capable of adding value to the projects.

Website: [www.grupoacs.com](http://www.grupoacs.com)

## NTR plc



Established in Ireland in 1978, NTR plc has developed from road infrastructure and toll operations to become a leading infrastructure solutions provider with expertise in waste management, renewable energy and innovative project management.

The first practitioner of Public Private Partnerships (PPP's) in Ireland, NTR has, through the East-Link and West-Link toll bridges, pioneered the partnership model with Dublin Corporation, Dublin Port & Docks Board, other Dublin local authorities and the NRA. NTR has successfully managed the East-Link and West-Link toll bridges for two decades.

NTR has recently diversified into the new areas of renewable power generation (electricity) and waste management (Celtic Waste). Being the only current private sector operator of a toll road in Ireland provides NTR with a considerable advantage in understanding the dynamics of the Irish market.

Website: [www.ntr.ie](http://www.ntr.ie)

## HGB ASCON Ltd



HGB Ascon Ltd is the Irish arm of Hollandse Beton Groep NV and operates through its subsidiaries Ascon Limited and Rohcon Limited. Ascon is the second largest contractor and the largest civil engineering contractor in Ireland. It undertakes building contracting through Rohcon Limited.

In 2000 HGB Ascon Ltd had turnover of €272m up 16.7% on the 1999 figure of €233m and pre-tax profits of €11.5m up 17.3% on the 1999 figure of €9.8m. HGB Ascon employs 1,600 staff through 3 offices in Ireland.

Website: [www.asconrohcon.com](http://www.asconrohcon.com)

## EDMUND NUTTALL Ltd



Edmund Nuttall is a United Kingdom based subsidiary of The Netherlands based HBG Group (Hollandse Beton Groep NV), in turn part of Royal BAM, offering a full range of civil engineering activities for large and small scale projects.

In 2002, Edmund Nuttall had group turnover of €570m, an increase from 2001 revenue of €490m. Pre-tax operating profit totalled €28m compared to €20m in 2001. Edmund Nuttall employs over 2,000 staff through 20 office/depots throughout the UK.

website: [www.Edmund-nuttall.co.uk](http://www.Edmund-nuttall.co.uk)

## IMPORTANT MILESTONES FOR THE PPP SCHEME

Contract Award	<i>February 5th 2004</i>
Design & Construction Commencement	<i>February 6th 2004</i>
Takeover of existing motorway operations	<i>April 29th 2004</i>
Completion of construction works (target)	<i>February 11th 2006</i>
Concession hand back to the NRA	<i>February 4th 2034</i>



Members of

## CRGM1 LIAISONS

Meetings have taken place between CRGM1 top management and the authorities of both Louth and Meath Counties including the Gardai and the Fire Brigades.

Maintaining close contact with the local communities and further developing and enhancing the relationships that exist between CRGM1 and these groups is seen as crucial to the overall success of the PPP. scheme.



Members of CRGM1 meet with Officials from Louth County Council.

## THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION JOINT VENTURE—DJV

The Dundalk Joint Venture (DJV) is composed of: Dragados Obras y Proyectos, S.A., Ascon Ltd and Nutall Ltd. The DJV has retained Mott MacDonald EPO as Designer.

The design and construction started on February 6<sup>th</sup> 2004 and is progressing as scheduled. The proposed date for completion is 11 February 2006.



## THE OPERATOR—NORTH-LINK M1 Ltd

The Operator of the M1 Motorway is composed of NTR Ltd, Dragados Dundalk Ireland Ltd and Ascon Ltd. The Operation commenced last April 29<sup>th</sup> 2004.



It is envisaged that the construction of Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) lanes will start within the coming three months. The users of these electronic lanes will have the significant benefit of not having to stop at the toll. They will also be able to avail of a 10% toll discount.

Trip Cards are another form of payment at the tolls. These cards (which can be purchased at the Toll Plaza booths) work on a credit system where each card credits a customer with 20 journeys. Users of the Trip Cards are also entitled to 10% discount. The full list of revised Toll Charges is below detailed.

### M1 MOTORWAY

#### Revised Toll Charges (including 21% VAT)

VEHICLE CLASS	TOLL CHARGE (incl VAT)
Motorcycle (exceeding 50 c.c.)	€0.80
Car	€1.60
Bus, Coach, Light Goods Vehicle	€2.80
HVG with 2 or 3 Axles	€4.00
HVG with 4 or more Axles	€5.00

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