

Brussels, February 10

### **MER MEC S.p.A. accepted as UNISIG Associated Member**

The UNISIG Consortium (UNISIG) is pleased to announce its acceptance, with effect from 1 January 2010, of an application for Associated Membership from MER MEC S.p.A.

MER MEC, based in Monopoli, Bari, Italy, is a developer and supplier of both onboard and trackside railway signalling equipment. The company becomes the second new Associated Member of UNISIG since its formation in 1999.

The full members of UNISIG are Alstom Transport, Ansaldo STS, Bombardier Transportation, Invensys Rail Group, Siemens Mobility and Thales Rail Signalling Solutions; AŽD Praha s.r.o became the first Associated Member of UNISIG on 1 January 2009.

Dr Maurizio Rosi, Ansaldo STS and Chairman of the UNISIG Steering Committee, said "On behalf of the UNISIG partners I warmly welcome MER MEC as our second Associated Member. We are all looking forward to working with experts from MER MEC in the various UNISIG activities during this year and, hopefully, for many years in the future".

Mr. Silvano Brandi, MERMEC Group CEO, said "I am very proud that MER MEC has been accepted into the group of leading world companies developing ERTMS/ETCS technical specifications. We are investing considerable resources in research and development and we are fully committed to bring all our best idea and contribution to the UNISIG Consortium. We are ready to actively contribute and to do our share in making interoperability across European railway networks a reality."

**About UNISIG** - Unisig was founded in 1999 at the specific request of the EU Commission with the task of drafting the technical specifications for ERTMS/ETCS. It has always been a purely technical body first working in close co-operation with the AEIF (the European Association for Railway Interoperability) and, since its formation in 2005, with the European Railway Agency (ERA). The majority of the detailed ETCS technical specifications have been produced by, and still today are being maintained and updated by, UNISIG under the leadership of the ERTMS Unit of the ERA as part of the ERTMS Change Control Management (CCM) process.

**About MERMEC Group** - Industry leader and innovator focused on developing cutting-edge technology able to advance safety, efficiency and availability of railway and rapid transit networks worldwide. The MERMEC Group provides products and services in more than 35 countries, with nearly 90 major private and public customers involved in freight and passenger transport, train production, wheel & rail manufacturing.

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