INFORMA

March-April 09. Issue Nº 89

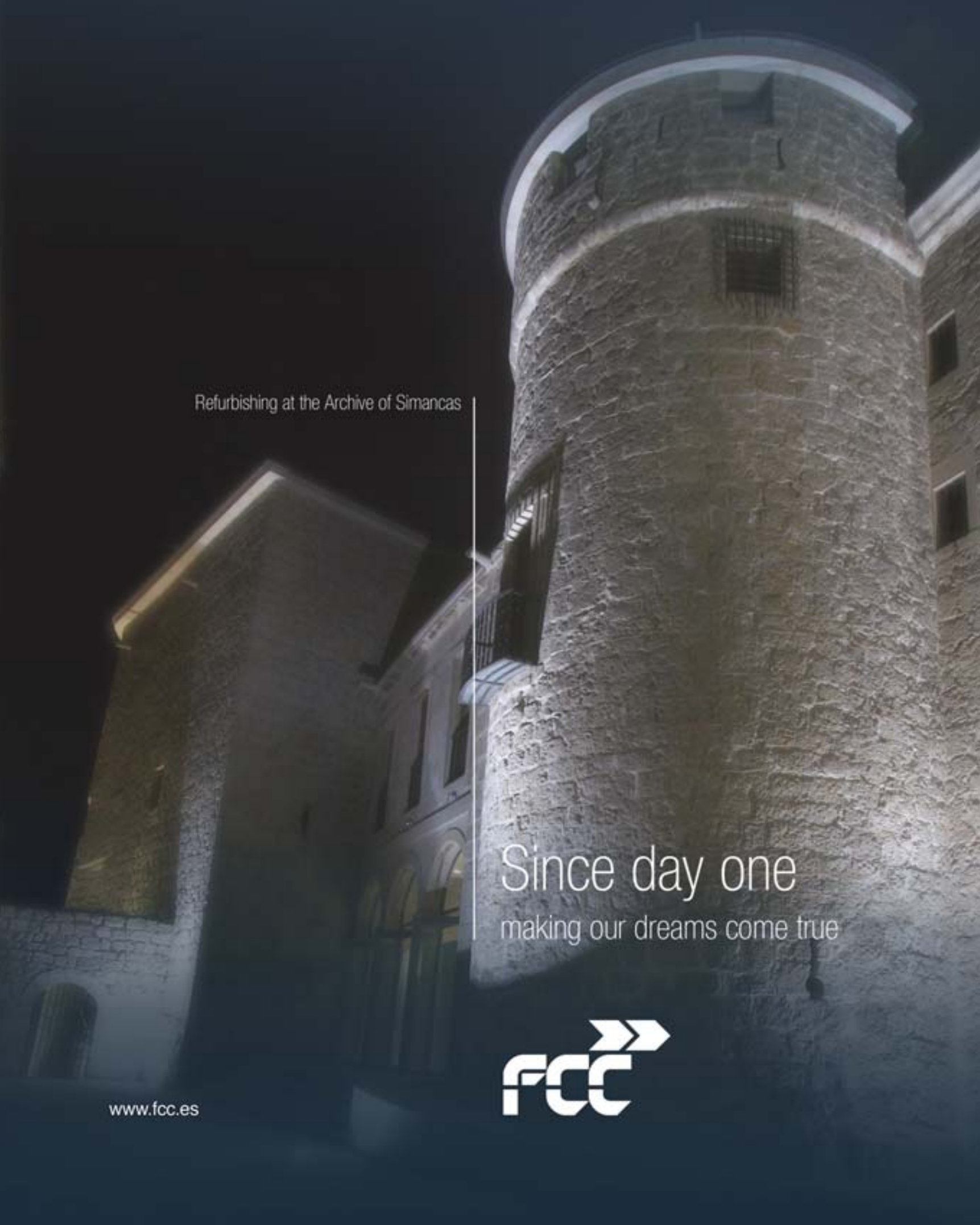
FCC grows in urban railway transport in Spain . Page 8

The mayor of Madrid inaugurates the Las Dehesas biomethanization plant in Valdemingómez, Madrid. Page 18

Cementos Portland Valderrivas restores the Eguibil quarry in Olazagutía, Navarre. Page 28

FCC participates in the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul. Page 32

ESTHER KOPLOWITZ, AWARDED THE MADRID COMMUNITY GOLD MEDAL


Refurbishing at the Archive of Simancas
Since day one
making our dreams come true
fcc
www.fcc.es

SUMMARY

GROUP

Esther Koplowitz awarded the Gold Medal of the Madrid Autonomous Region for her solidarity work page4/5/6. FCC appoints new General Managers of Human Resources and Administration and Information Technologies, page7.

CONSTRUCTION

FCC lands 40-year, 264 million euro contract to build and manage Murcia's tramway, page8/9. Alpine to build three soccer fields in Poland for the 2012 Eurocup, page10/11. ALPINE to enlarge Austria's western railway line for 123.9 million euro, page12. Two spas to be built in Austria, page12. FCC to build two tunnels for the German Railway, page13. Espelsa shows Ecuadorian defense attaché the EUPM simulator, page14. Prize for the tree best students of the Engineering School, page14. Laying of first stone of the l'Alacantí Sur Wastewater Treatment Plant in Alicante, page15. FCC to build the new Álava Penitentiary , page15. 2008 Fomento Quality and Innovation Award, page16/17.

SERVICES

Madrid's mayor inaugurates the Las Dehesas biomethanization plant in Valdemingómez, page18/19/20. FCC extends cleaning contract in Albacete by 5 years, page21. The mayor of Ávila unveils Aqualia's Virtual Office, page21. WRG wins urban waste recycling contract in Suffolk, United Kingdom, page22. A.S.A. improves service quality in the Czech Republic, page23. FCC lands water management contracts worth 210 million euro, page24/25. Aqualia attends the Fourth Wastewater Sanitation Management Seminar in Barcelona, page25. Water supply is the best rated public service in Oviedo, page26. Waterworks at Cassà de la Selva in Girona starts operations, page26. Drinking water plant inaugurated in Molins de Rei, Barcelona, page27.

CEMENT

Cementos Portland Valderrivas restores the Eguibil quarry in Olazagutía, Navarre, page28/29/30/31.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

FCC participates in the 5th World Water Forum, in Istanbul, page32/33/34. FCC participates in the Equality and Reconciliation Workshop organized by Madrid Excelente, page35. Madrid City Hall gives award to Torre Picasso, page36. FCC Construcción and Bovis Lend Lease enter into an agreement for the prevention of occupational hazards, page36. ALPINE and art: "Perspectives" by Erwin Kastner, page37. FCC sponsors an Austrian musical event in Peking, page37.

Publisher: Fomento de Construcciones y Contratas, S.A. Information Directorate
Balmes 36, 08007 Barcelona. Tel. 934 964 900. Fax: 934 878 892. Federico Salmón, 13 - 28016 Madrid. Tel. 913 595 400. Fax: 913 454 923.
www.fcc.es • fcc@fcc.es • This news bulletin is also available at: www.fcc.es
Production: Promocamseis. Miguel Ángel, 1 dup. / 28010 Madrid. Tel: 91 702 64 04.

Esther Koplowitz awarded the Gold Medal of the Madrid Autonomous Region for her solidarity work

Esther Koplowitz receives the highest distinction granted by the Madrid Regional Government for her corporate leadership acumen and her important sponsorship and charity work.

The Madrid Regional Government awarded the Gold Medal of the Madrid Autonomous Region to Esther Koplowitz in recognition of her intense activity in the social and corporate world.

The Esther Koplowitz Foundation, which is funded solely by contributions from its founder, has donated over 33 million euro to the Madrid Regional Government to contribute to improving the living conditions of members of the community.

Social work

The Esther Koplowitz Foundation financed the construction of a home for elderly people without means in Collado Villalba; the home was transferred in 2001 to the Madrid Regional Government, which manages the institution. Designed and built to the highest quality standards, “Nuestra Casa” is a welcoming home facing the mountain range in northern Madrid where 180 elderly people enjoy exceptional living conditions.

Extensively equipped, the centre has game and social rooms and facilities for recuperation and physical and psychosomatic maintenance.

Handcraft workshops and gardens are just some of the amenities that make the residents feel entirely at home in Nuestra Casa.

Esther Koplowitz's involvement is more than just financial. Not only is she permanently interested in the home's performance, but she also provides the residents with medical assistance funded by the Esther Koplowitz Foundation.

Another action by the Esther Koplowitz Foundation in Madrid was the construction and outfitting of a new centre for the El Despertar association for the severely mentally

In the area of medical research, the Foundation donated a Da Vinci precision surgery robot to Hospital Clínico San Carlos.

Recognition of Esther Koplowitz' social work

The community and various institutions have recognized the social work carried out by Esther Koplowitz, who has received several awards in recent years, including the following:

- Grand Cross of Civil Merit, granted by the Spanish Cabinet in July 2001 for her track in support of social work.
- The XV Blanquerna Prize, granted by the Catalan Government, for her entrepreneurship and her commitment to the most disadvantaged members of society.
- The 2008 IMSERSO Infanta Cristina award in the Social Merit category.
- The Madrid Grand Cross for Healthcare, granted by the Madrid Regional Government.
- Gold Cross of Social Solidarity granted by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.
- Business Leader of the Year Award from the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce.
- Gold Coat of Arms of the City of Barcelona, granted by the city.
- Adoptive Daughter of Valencia, the city's highest honor.
- Gold Medal of the Royal Academy of History for the promotion of scientific books with historical contents.
- Gold and Diamond Insignia from the Foundation of Orphans of the National Police Force.
- Silver Cross for Merit from the Directorate-General of the Civil Guards.
- Annual award of the Adecco Foundation.
- Trustee of the San Millán de la Cogolla Foundation, taking the place of the academician, writer, and Noble prizewinner Camilo José Cela.

The Esther Koplowitz Foundation, which has been active since 1995, is considered a Non-Profit Charity Organization by the Ministry of Work and Immigration. Above these lines: the Nuestra Casa Home in Collado Villalba (Madrid); the La Nostra Casa de Fort Pienc Home in Barcelona, and the La Nostra Casa Home in Valencia.

handicapped, located in a former school building owned by Madrid City Government.

Research and development

In the area of medical research, the Foundation donated a Da Vinci precision surgery robot to Hospital Clínico San Carlos. This technology provides surgeons with a 3D view, providing a sensation of depth in the surgical field and greater precision in diagnosis, in contrast to traditional laparoscopic surgery.

The Foundation also sponsors the Tactile Vision project of General Foundation of Madrid Complutense University, which aims to enable those who are blind to read and recognize their surroundings.

With regards to training and youth development, the Foundation also provides numerous scholarships for young people.

Outside the Madrid Autonomous Region, Esther Koplowitz and her Foundation have a range of significant projects focused on the neediest.

In Valencia, she financed the construction of a home for people with physical and mental disabilities, which was handed over to the Valencia City Government in 2005. The Foundation is also planning the construction of another similar home in the near future.

Esther Koplowitz has also undertaken two major projects in Barcelona. The CIBEK (Esther Koplowitz Centre for Medical Research) is one of the principal cases of sponsorship for medical research not just in Spain but in Europe. Scheduled for inauguration in the next year, the CIBEK will improve patients' health by probing the origins, diagnosis and treatment of such diseases as cancer, diseases of the liver and digestive tract, and metabolic and neurological diseases, among others.

And in the area of care, Esther Koplowitz funded the construction of a home for the elderly, with capacity for 170 people, which was donated to Barcelona City Government in 2003.

Late in 2008, an agreement was reached to build another home, in Valladolid, for elderly people with mental disabilities together with a specialized treatment unit. Construction has already begun on the facility, which will be the only one of its kind in the Castile & León region.

The Esther Koplowitz Foundation, which has been operational since December 1995, is registered with the Ministry of Labor and Immigration as a non-profit organization. To date, the Esther Koplowitz Foundation has donated 92 million euro.

FCC appoints new General Managers of Human Resources and Administration and Information Technologies

On 17 April, FCC announced the new appointments of Francisco Martín Monteagudo and Antonio Gómez Ciria as new General Managers of Human Resources and Administration, respectively, replacing Antonio Pérez Colmenero and José Luís Vasco Hernando.

The Board of Directors of FCC has appointed Francisco Martín Monteagudo as General Manager of Human Resources and Antonio Gómez Ciria as General Manager of Administration and Information Technology.

They replace Antonio Pérez Colmenero and José Luís Vasco Hernando, respectively, who have decided to retire. Antonio Pérez Colmenero, who is a member of the Board of Directors of FCC, has spent practically his entire career (42 years) at FCC, always as General Manager of Human Resources. José Luís Vasco has been with the Company for 35 years, the last twelve as General Manager of Administration.

The Board of Directors thanked both executives warmly for their high level of professionalism and extraordinary dedication to the company.

New General Manager of Human Resources

The new General Manager of Human Resources, Francisco Martín Monteagudo, 48, holds a degree in Chemistry from Madrid Complutense University. He was formerly Head of Human Resources for Eastern Europe at Dow Chemical, based in Zurich, General Manager of Human Resources at Sol Meliá and, since 2001, General Manager of Human Resources at Indra.

General Manager of Administration and Information Technologies

Antonio Gómez Ciria, 52, the new General Manager of Administration and Information Technology, has been General Manager of Internal Audit at FCC since 2005. A graduate in Mathematics and Economics, he was formerly Head of the Market Inspectorate at Madrid Stock Exchange, a director of Tabacalera Empresa Nacional de Autopistas and Empresa Nacional del Uranio, and Chairman of the Instituto de Contabilidad and Auditoría de Cuentas. Antonio Gómez Ciria will also be in charge of Information Technology and Information

Security Systems, and Risk Management.

Internal Audit Manager

The Board also appointed 39-year old Miguel Hernanz Sanjuán, who was the FCC Deputy-Manager of Internal Audit since 2005, and before that, from 1994 to 2005, Audit Manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Dedication and professional capacity

Nearly the entire professional careers of Antonio Pérez Colmenero and José Luis Vasco Hernando have been at FCC (42 and 35 years, respectively). The Board of Directors paid a warm tribute to their extraordinary careers at the company, marked by their dedication and professional skills.

CONSTRUCTION

FCC lands 40-year, 264 million euro contract to build and manage Murcia's tramway

The new contract consolidates FCC's leadership in Spain's mass transit railway transport concessions. The 18-km tramway will connect the city's midtown district with Nueva Condomina, the city's new commercial district, and the universities.

Murcia's city government awarded the consortium comprised by FCC Construcción (60%) and COMSA (40%) with a 40-year contract that contemplates the construction, maintenance, and operations of the tramway. The contract is worth 264 million euro.

The contract is worth 264 million euro

It is the largest investment in a public works project in the history of the municipality. This contract reinforces FCC's leading position in the area of mass transport railway concessions in Spain.

The contract also includes the construction project design and the supply of mobile material. Eleven modern, 33 meter-long tramways will run through the new line, almost 18 km-long, connecting Murcia's midtown district with the new commercial area, Nueva Condomina, and the universities, intersecting the city's main streets and avenues.

The average distance between the 28 stops will

On the left, the Barcelona tramway and, above, the Parla, Madrid tramway, both of which were built and are managed by FCC.

be 450 meters, distributed as follows: 12 stops along the route connecting Plaza Circular and Nueva Condomina; eleven stops along the Plaza

Circular and Murcia University route; and four stops from the platform to the Catholic University. All the stops will feature ticket stations, loud-speaker systems, service information systems, surveillance cameras, and shelters.
Overhead power cables will not be installed for the nearly one km-long tramway route between the Juan Carlos I Avenue station, close to the Plaza Circular, and the Avenida de la Flota.

Most of the Plaza Circular – University of Murcia line will have a double-railway and a single platform while the second line to the Nueva Condomina stadium will have double railways with one and two platforms with practically equal proportions.

The railway line will be 6.6 meters wide in the double-rail (6.3 in the stretch without overhead power lines) and 4.05 meters wide in the single railway stretches.

There will be two types of platforms, side and island, both of which will be 40 meters long. The minimum width will be 4 meters for island platforms and 2.50 meters for platforms on the side.

The height over the platform will be 35 centimeters and the station shelter will cover a distance of 16 meters. The project also contemplates the construction of four viaducts and an overpass.

A total of 5.5 million people are expected to use the tramway in the first year; 513 million users are projected during the 40-year concession. This figure will increase over time.

Construction work is expected to begin next summer and the tramway is expected to be operational at 2010 year-end, following a successful six-month trial.

New Baltic Arena project in Gdansk.

Alpine to build three soccer fields in Poland for the 2012 Eurocup

Alpine, FCC's Austrian subsidiary, will build three soccer fields in Poland (Warsaw, Gdansk, and Posen) for the Eurocup world championship in 2012. The contracts are worth 480 million euro. Alpine will build the three stadiums in partnership with the Polish firm Hydrobudowa Polska.

Baltic Arena, Gdansk

On 11 April, the city council representatives of Gdansk, in the north of the country, signed the official order for the construction of the Baltic Arena, the new stadium for the Eurocup. The contract is worth 95.5 million euro and construction is expected to be completed in 20 months.

The stadium, with 44,000 seats and 6,500 parking spaces, will be raised on a 39-hectare plot near the city's midtown district. The 15,891 m^2 structure is reminiscent of Gdansk's typical boats. The stadium will have a translucent, airy look, achieved using girders and a module that becomes more transparent as it rises.

Thanks to these projects, FCC has become a worldwide reference multinational in the construction of major sports facilities

Posen Stadium

Posen stadium will be revamped and enlarged. New stands a new roof will be built. Once the project is completed, it will have seating from 47,000. The contract is worth 89 million euro and should be completed in a 17-month period. Users will also have 1,600 parking spaces.

The Warsaw National Stadium

The same consortium, Alpine-Hydrobudowa Polska, was also awarded a 295 million euro contract for building the new

The new Warsaw National Stadium project.

This is how the Posen Stadium will look after the revamping project.

55,000 seat Warsaw National Stadium which will have an impressive steel cable lattice structure that will give it a stunning look. The construction period is estimated at 24 months.

Stadium construction experience

ALPINE has wide experience in the execution of large stadiums and is one of the leading global firms engaging in the construction of sports facilities. After building the Allianz Arena in Munich, home of the FIFA Germany 2006 World Championship, and one of the most spectacular stadiums in the World, ALPINE was in charge of the construction of the Wörthersee Stadium in Klagenfurt Austria for the 2008 Eurocup, the enlargement of the Tivoli-Stadion in Innsbruck and the Wals-Siezenheim Stadium in Salzburg for the 2008 Eurocup. It recently completed construction of the Cricket Stadium in Dubai in one of the largest sports complexes worldwide.

In Spain, FCC has wide experience in the construction of soccer fields. These projects include the revamping and enlargement of the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium and Vicente Calderón Stadium (both in Madrid) and the Nou Camp facilities in Barcelona. It also built El Sardinero football pitch in Santander, Barcelona's Joan Camper Sport City complex, the new Real Madrid athletic complex in Valdebebas and Español's new pitch in Cornellá. In 2007 it won the contract to build the Valencia Club de Fútbol's new stadium.

ALPINE to enlarge Austria's western railway line for 123.9 million euro

Main artery for European rail traffic

The West Railway is one of the main arteries in Austrian and an essential artery for European rail traffic. The extension of the Transeuropean TEN 17 Line between Paris and Bratislava, part of the awarded project, is essential. Part of the West Railway has been enlarged already with two additional rail lines. The extension of the Ybbs and Amstetten route is an important part of this project.

The federal Austrian railway company (ÖBB Infrastruktur Bau AG) awarded ALPINE a 123.9 million euro contract for the enlargement of Austria's western railway between Ybbs and Blindenmarkt.

When this 11-kilometre-long section has been widened by an additional two tracks, the maximum speed can be increased from 160 km/hour to 250 km/hour. In addition, the existing tracks will be replaced to accommodate high-speed trains. The job includes a great number of bridges and tunnels. In addition, the construction project also includes the Neumarkt Station which will be built at a new site; a new pedestrian tunnel, a parking facility and a central platform.

One of the most important tunnels in this job is Burgstaller Tunnel. ALPINE will build 1.7 of the tunnel's 2.2 kilometers using the cut-and-cover system. Plans are to install a provisional track so that rail traffic does not have to be cut off.

Approximately 170,000 m^3 of concrete and 18,000 tons of structural steel will be used in the project and 800,000 m^3 of earth will be removed in the area contemplated in the contract. Moreover 50,000 m^2 of sound barriers will be installed during the execution of the project to avoid inconveniencing neighbors.

The West Railway is one of the main arteries for rail traffic between the eastern and western European Union. With four tracks, this line can increase the network's service capacity by improving both passenger and freight mobility and reducing travel time. Once the project is completed, it will only take two hours to travel from Vienna to Salzburg.

Two spas to be built in Austria

ALPINE to build two spas in Austria: the Vienna Oberlaa Spaa and the Taurern Spa World in Karpun, both of which will be completed by the end of 2010.

Vienna Oberlaa Spa

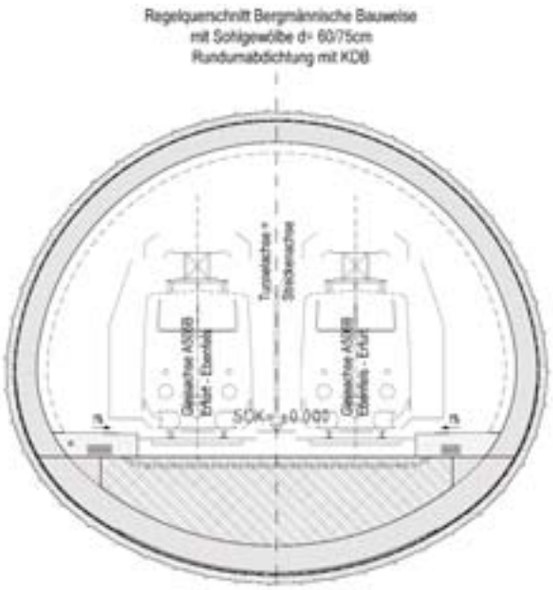
The contract for the construction of the new Vienna Oberlaa Spa includes the construction of a spa and a health and wellness centre with underground parking for 82 cars. The building's entrance gives onto the lobby, a cozy, welcoming space with shops, restaurants and a reception area. There will be a central area reached from the inside by elevator. The residential complex boasts an attractive interior design and magnificent views, not to mention a wide variety of treatment options. Each area will be decorated with rocks creating a specific type of landscape. For example, the spa will have a "Beauty Rock", a "Relaxation Rock" and, especially for children, an "Adventure Rock". A spacious sauna zone is being built at the rear of the spa.

Tauern Spa World

The construction contract for the Tauern Spa World includes a four-star hotel with a total of 320 beds. All the parts of the planned building conform to a simple overall design. One of the most attractive features is the spa's enormous overhanging roof.

The spa is reached from the hotel through a glassed-in passageway. The hotel receives sunlight from the south, east and west, and it has got excellent views that can be enjoyed from every single room. Due to the way the hotel roof slopes toward the southeast, guests sitting in the restaurant and the main patio can enjoy an impressive landscape, the snow-covered mountains of the Upper Tauern National Park. The panoramic glass-walled swimming pool is one of the strongest features of the hotel's design for the northwest side.

Below, the Vienna Oberlaa Spa project; at the right, construction of the Tauern Spa World.



FCC to build two tunnels for the German Railway

Germany's railway operator, Deutsche Bahn AG, awarded ALPINE, FCC's Austrian subsidiary, a contract worth almost 122 million euro for the construction of two railway tunnels.

Baumleite Tunnel

It will take approximately 3 years to build the 1,317 meter Baumleite Tunnel south of Erfurt between the communities of Theuern, Truckental and Grümpen. A 40-meter escape shaft will serve as an emergency exit. The contract value amounts to nearly 44 million euro.

The tunnel is part of the new 107-km line between Ebensfeld and Erfurt comprising the upgraded Nuremberg-Berlin line. Beton und Monierbau GmbH (BeMo), a wholly-owned subsidiary of ALPINE Bau GmbH, will be responsible for the tunnel construction.

New Kaiser Wilhelm Tunnel

Built in 1877, the double-track Kaiser Wilhelm Tunnel needs to be adapted to meet new safety requirements. A joint venture comprised of ALPINE Untertagebau GmbH, ALPINE Bau Deutschland AG and FCC Construcción will build a new single-track tunnel for this purpose.

The tunnel is located on railroad line 3100 between Koblenz and Perl. The tunnel will be 4,200 meters long. The new tunnel will be driven with a single-shield tunnel boring machine with a diameter of 10.12 meters. The old tunnel tube will be rehabilitated and connected to the new tube by means of eight connecting structures having a length of 15 meters each. Construction of a second tunnel tube will keep the line open to traffic in the future. The contract value is approximately 80 million euro. Construction is scheduled to be completed in November 2011.

ALPINE's experience in tunnel construction

ALPINE has extensive experience in tunnel construction, not just in Austria (e.g. the Pfänder, Katschberg and Lainzer tunnels) but also worldwide. Alpine has been part of the Gotthard Base Tunnel construction project in Switzerland since 2001. ALPINE is currently building part of the new subway network in New Delhi and a water supply tunnel for the Tapovan power plant, which is located south of the Himalayas, in India. It is also building tunnels for power plants in Bulgaria and Turkey. ALPINE is currently expanding the subway network in Singapore and, upon completion of the Yellow River Diversion Project, is building an underground water supply tunnel in China.,

Espelsa shows Ecuadorian defense attaché the EUPM simulator

ESPELSA, the FCC subsidiary specializing in electrical installations, construction and maintenance of high and low voltage distribution grids, renewable energies, and IT telecommunication-control and simulation systems, showed the Ecuadorian defense attaché, Coronel Marcos Cervantes, the Portable Missile Launcher Training Simulator (EUMP, Spanish acronym) installed in the Infantry Academy in Toledo.

The EUMP system is a portable missile launcher training simulator and was developed and installed by ESPELSA for squadron instruction purposes. This system is capable of realistically simulating geographical spaces, terrains, maneuvering areas, target behavior, firing effects, etcetera, and it provides trainees with a simulated environment where they can accustom themselves to the means and organic methods by which these factors act.

Colonel José Pulido, the officer in charge of the academy's Simulation and Educational Resources Centre, gave Colonel Cervantes a demonstration of the trainer's operational and technical capacities. The attaché was able to see first hand how effective this particular tool is for training and teaching squads without having to use real weapons. There is a double advantage inherent in this feature of the system: From the economic standpoint it means a big savings in training costs, and from the safety standpoint using a hardware/software system that recreates situations highly realistically means young soldiers need not be exposed to hazardous conditions.

Prize for the tree best students of the Engineering School

José Mayor Oreja, FCC Construcción Chairman, handing the prize to Rubén Díez.

FCC Construcción gave an award to the three best students in the 2007-2008 academic year of the School of Engineering of the Polytechnic University of Madrid.

Founded in 1993, the prizes were given by José Mayor Oreja, Chairman of FCC Construcción, to Rubén Díez Lorenzo, the top-ranking student in the graduating class, Teresa Sánchiz Chapa, number two, and Daniel Pérez Gutiérrez, number three. The prize consists of cash to help the students further their careers.

Those attending the event included Esperanza Aguirre, the President of the Madrid Autonomous Community; Fernando Palau, Secretary of State for Transport; Javier Uceda, the chancellor of Madrid's Polytechnic University; and, Juan Santamera, Director of the School of Engineering.

Laying of first stone of the l'Alacantí Sur Wastewater Treatment Plant in Alicante

Francisco Camps, president of the Valencia Autonomous Community, laid the first stone marking the start of construction of the L'Alacantí Sur Wastewater Treatment Plant in Alicante to be built by FCC Construcción in a joint venture with Aqualia Infraestructuras and a local partner. The plant is worth an investment of 39.6 million euro. The joint venture will also be in charge of plant operations in the two years after the project is completed. Among those attending the event were the Secretary of the Valencia Autonomous Region for the Environment, Water, Urban Development, and Housing, José Ramón García; the mayor of Alicante, Sonia Castedo, and the mayor of San Vicente de Raspeig, Luisa Pastor.

This project is part of the end-to-end water treatment and recycling systems of the town and will make it possible to recycle 30 million liters of water per day which will be used for farm irrigation. The wastewater treatment plant will be built next to the north face of the Foncalent mountain range at El Garrofer, Alicante. The

The new wastewater treatment plant is part of the Valencia Autonomous Community Water Infrastructure Plan

comprehensive sanitation, treatment, and recycling system will use wastewater from San Vicente de Raspeig, from the Pla de la Vallonga industrial park, and the new Rabassa urban development, by connecting directly to the collectors currently in place. The wastewater will be piped to the to the Las Ovejas pumping station and then to the wastewater treatment plant, which will have an installed capacity of 30,000 m^3 per day. The plant will feature renewable energy generation systems, a solar park, and a waterfall which will produce 40% of the electricity used at the station, thereby preventing the emission to the atmosphere of 1,140 mt of CO_2.

Francisco Camps lays the first stone of the new wastewater treatment plant.

FCC to build the new Álava Penitentiary

SIEP, the state-owned company in charge of penitentiary infrastructure and equipment, has awarded FCC Construcción the 78.5-million-euro contract to build Norte I Penitentiary in Zaballa, Álava. The completion period is 22 months long. The new centre will have 720 cells of various penitentiary classifications and a number of different buildings equipped for inmate control, monitoring, custody, administration and rehabilitation.

The design adheres to the idea of a penitentiary facility as a self-sufficient urban nucleus. So, the centre is a little town to itself, made up of 12 minicentres, with cultural, health, athletic and communal production services to cover all the needs of the inmates. This kind of set-up reduces the number of trips to outside community services and lends additional strength to the rehabilitation policy, which is the end goal of current penitentiary policy.

The design includes sustainability-friendly criteria, such as the use of materials whose production or manufacturing causes less pollution than conventional materials and whose technological efficiency in operation is higher. Resources (water and power) are used more rationally and renewable energy sources are encouraged. Other necessary corrective measures for reducing the penitentiary's environmental impact will be provided through architectural adaptation to the topographical, climate and sun exposure conditions.

The design of the new centre will enhance management, with the consolidation of the residential communications building; reinforced inmate training capacity, through the allocation of more workshops, training and treatment facilities; and greater capacity and compartmentalization, through the multi-purpose module and the closed-regimen module.

Designed by Norman Foster and built by FCC, it is city's tallest building, 250 meters high, the most permitted by urban planning regulations.

2008 Fomento Quality and Innovation Awards

On 20 February, FCC gave the 2009 Fomento Quality and Innovation Awards, given annually by FCC Construcción to the most relevant projects of the year. Baldomero Falcones, Chairman and CEO of FCC, the Directors Fernando Falcó, Felipe García y Antonio Pérez Colmenero, and José Mayor Oreja, Chairman of FCC Construcción, were all present at the event jointly with the award-winners.

Torre Caja Madrid

The 2008 Fomento Quality Award for Building went to Torre Caja Madrid, by Zone 2, the Madrid Building 1 office. This skyscraper, designed by Norman Foster and raised in the former Real Madrid Sport City, is the city's tallest building, 250 meters high. It has two types of elevations. One is all glass, open and airy, looking south and north. The other is a stepped elevation looking east and west, comprised of a thin solid core and glassed-in floors. Also in this category, an honorable mention went to the BANPRO Corporate Building, in the American Zone, built by subsidiary MSG-Nicaragua.

The building's striking, elegant architectural design is by the Costa-Rican firm Zurcher Arquitectos. The building itself was built to an excellent quality standard and completed on time.

Reutilization of water resources from the Sierra de Tramontana.

The 2008 Fomento Quality Award for Civil Works went to the work done by Zone 5, the Balearic Islands office, on a project to utilize the water resources of the Sierra de Tramontana. The job covered all building necessary to collect excess water from the Sierra de Tramontana and the infrastructure necessary to use that water to refill the S'Estremera aquifer. Also included were connections to the urban water systems of Sóller, Bunyola, Palmanyola and Palma de Mallorca. The average amount of water collected yearly by the new system is 10 Hm^3, which is equal to nearly one-fourth of the amount of water the city of Palma de Mallorca consumes in one year.

The winners received a plaque made especially for this award by José Luis Sánchez, one of Spanish contemporary art's most important sculptors.

Automation of railway sleeper-manufacturing process

Honorary Construction Manager

At the 2008 ceremony the title of 2008 Honorary Construction Manager was given to Juan Antonio Muro Murillo, who has spent nearly 37 years with FCC, during which time he forged a model organization at the Machinery Department, and Jaime Redondo Vergé, who since 1973 has held different positions of responsibility in the company, up to his current post as manager of the Development and Management Department.

From left to right: FCC Chairman and Managing Director Baldomero Falcones; FCC Construcción Chairman Mayor Oreja; FCC Construcción General Manager Francisco García giving the Honorary Construction Manager Award to Juan Antonio Muro. Above, the Caja Madrid Building, winner of the 2008 Fomento Quality Building Award.

Above these lines, Fernando Falcó, FCC Director, gives the Honorary Award to Jaime Redondo Vergé; on his right, Baldomero Falcones, Chairman and CEO of FCC Construcción. On the left, above, the 2008 Fomento Innovation Award given to Prefabricados Delta for its Automation of Railway Sleeper-Manufacturing Process. Below, the 2008 Fomento Quality Award for Civil Works went to the work done by Zone 5, the Balearic Islands office, on a project to utilize the water resources of the Sierra de Tramontana.

The 2008 Fomento Innovation Award was given to Prefabricados Delta for its work to automate the railway sleeper-manufacturing process. The project has made for improvements in more ways than one: It brings down production costs through automation; it enables activities to be followed more closely by increasing the number of log readings available and incorporating the appropriate alarms; it provides dimensional control of 100% of the sleepers made, so that any deviation appearing in a mould is immediately discovered; and it guarantees the traceability of the process, so that progress can be made toward computerizing production data and thus facilitating subsequent data processing and data reporting to customers.

SERVICES

Madrid's mayor inaugurates the Las Dehesas biomethanization plant in Valdemingómez

Built by FCC, and the most advanced and modern plant of its kind in Europe, the plant occupies a 32,000m² plot of land in the Valdemingómez Technological Park, Madrid.

The Las Dehesas biomethanization plant, part of the Valdemingómez Biomethanization Complex, was built by FCC and officially inaugurated by Alberto Ruiz-Gallardón, the mayor of Madrid; and the Deputy Mayor and Secretary of the Environment of Madrid, Ana Botella. The

The most advanced and modern plant in Europe

Chairman and CEO of the FCC Group, Baldomero Falcones, the Chaiman of FCC Servicios, José Luis de la Torre, and the General Manager of the Environment Division, Agustín García Gila, attended the event in representation of FCC. Investment in this project amounted to 41.6 million euro, spent in building the facilities for reception, storage, handling, and digestion of urban solid waste for its proper treatment and energy re-utilization.

The design of the project is extremely environmentally-friendly. A deodorization system for the industrial areas and premises was installed to prevent any possible emissions to air.

The facilities, the most advanced and modern in Europe, occupy a 32,000 m^2 plot in the Valdemingómez Technological Park in Madrid. It is able to treat 218,000 tons of waste per year, from its entry in the pre-treatment line, and 161,000 tons of waste from the entry in the digesters, which means that the plant will be able to produce 20,447,000 m^2 of biogas per year.

The installations consist of three main areas:

- Pre-treatment area where urban waste is handled before entering the digestion area.
- Biomethanization area where anaerobic fermentation of organic waste takes place (40º C) and biogas is produced. Fermentation is carried out in three digesters, each with a capacity of 3,600 m^2. These are concrete silos, 16 meters in diameter and 23 meters high.
- Area for the treatment of process water, with a capacity of 192 m^3/day. Treatment consists of pre-treatment, aerobic digestion of active mud, treatment of sludge, ultra-filtration, and reverse osmosis.

Biomethanization Complex

The City Council has invested 79.8 million euro in this Biomethanization Complex, which also includes the Las Dehesas plant, the La Paloma biomethanization plant, and a biogas treatment plant. Of the above-

Valdemingómez converts waste into energy

For the first time in Spain, it will be possible to use waste-produced biogas by distributing it through the natural gas network. When the biomethanization complex operates at full capacity, it will be able, not only to prevent the emission of 300,000 tons of equivalent CO_2, but will also handle up to 369,000 organic waste (60% of household waste in Madrid) and convert it to 34 million cubic meters of biogas that could be used to produce electrical power at the Valdemingómez plant, or, once impurities have been removed, feed it into the general natural gas network.

The Las Dehesas biomethanization plant was officially inaugurated by the mayor of Madrid, Alberto Ruiz-Gallardón, and the Deputy Mayor and Secretary of the Environment, Ana Botella.

mentioned amount, 34 million euro was financed with E.U. cohesion funds. This is the largest plant of its kind in Europe and makes Madrid maverick in this regard.

The mayor said that it will be possible to obtain an equivalent of 18.7 million cubic meters of natural gas, sufficient to supply 405 gas-powered buses, nearly 25% of the entire fleet. If converted into electricity, it would be sufficient to cover consumption in 20,500 households, or 4% of the city's entire industry. "Regardless of the final use made of this biogas", the mayor said "this Biomethanization Complex fulfills the energy strategy of the European Union whose objective is to reduce20% of CO_2 emissions and energy consumption, and increase the production of renewable energy by 20% by the year 2020".

Madrid, an environmental reference

The city of Madrid has become a reference in waste management and in the production of renewable energy. Both aspects are essential to combat climate change and transform the capital into an efficient model for sustainable development. In his speech, the mayor said that Madrid was "ahead of the E.U. objectives, a pioneer in this field, since hit has made the challenge of waste management part of the solution". He said that the city had been able to "incorporate new phases in the recycling process which make it a source of clean and renewable energy that contributes to the reduction of greenhouse gases (CO_2) and the volume of urban waste". He added that the start up of the biomethanization plant at the Valdemingómez Technological Park underscored "our capacity of being one step ahead and our steadfast commitment to our environment and surroundings".

FCC extends cleaning contract in Albacete by 5 years

Albacete's city government has extended FCC's street cleaning and waste collection contract by five years. The contract is worth 65 million euro.

FCC's arrangement with Albacete's city government dates back to 1994; however, the company has been providing the city with these services since 1984, when it won the public tender.

FCC has been providing environmental services since 1915, when it began providing waste collection services in Barcelona (a contract which it has held uninterruptedly to date).

Of the 8,100 municipalities in Spain, FCC provides urban sanitation services (waste collection, street cleaning, household waste treatment, garden cleaning, etc.) to 3,597 of them; revenue in this area totaled 1.440 billion euro in 2008 (1.350 billion euro in 2007). The company serves 27 million people.

FCC's backlog in this area has expanded steadily and now amounts to 8.926 billion euro, i.e. 21.7% more than at 2007 year-end and equivalent to 70 months' work.

Outside Spain, FCC is active in this area in the UK and in various countries throughout Central Europe and Latin America, where revenue totaled 1 billion euro.

The mayor of Ávila unveils Aqualia's Virtual Office

Aqualia unveiled its Virtual Office in Ávila, integrated in its www.aqualia.es/avila website. The office provides ongoing customer service and makes it possible to handle all types of procedures from the computer thereby making it unnecessary to have to go to its offices in person.

The event, held at the Water Salon, was presided by the city's mayor, Miguel Ángel García Nieto, accompanied by the City Council's Secretary of Public Works, Antonio Pérez. The mayor expressed his appreciation for this initiative which, he said "complements the excellent water supply and sanitation services rendered by Aqualia in this city", saying that they were "very satisfied" with this service. He also stressed that the virtual office provides a "service based on a two-way communication with customers, which was just as important as the work carried out by the technicians". Lastly, he mentioned the satisfaction expressed in recent polls by the city's residents with regards to the Ávila's water services.

From left to right: Mariano González, Aqualia representative in Castille-León; Antonio López, the Councilor of Public Works of the city of Ávila; Miguel Ángel García Nieto, the city's mayor; and José Gabriel Lumbreras, Head of Aqualia Service in Álvila during the presentation of the Water Salon.

WRG wins urban waste recycling contract in Suffolk, United Kingdom

Waste Recycling Group (WRG), FCC's British subsidiary and one of the leading waste management and energy recycling companies in the United Kingdom for the operation and upgrading of urban waste recycling facilities in Suffolk County, eastern England (UK). The 7-year contract, which could be extended for a further three years, will generate 30 million sterling pounds in revenues for WRG.

The agreement contemplates 18 household waste recycling centers (HWRCs) throughout the county, and will enter into force on 16 May. WRG has broad experience in managing HWRCs and will be able to exceed the expectations of Suffolk local authorities in this respect.

Suffolk Waste Partnership (SWP) spokesman, council portfolio holder for environment and waste management Eddy Alcock said: "Suffolk is committed to increasing recycling and composting and we want people to see this as a commitment to customer service and to improving health conditions and the safety of the HWRCs. We are pleased that WRG is the concession company. WRG has shown a commitment and enthusiasm to improve levels of customer service. They are also committed to improving our current recycling levels and achieving 60 per cent recycling and composting during the term of the contract". "We are working with WRG and the current concession company to ensure that customer service is not interrupted during the transition", he added.

Leader in waste management

FCC has been operating for more than 18 years in the United Kingdom through its subsidiaries FOCSA and WRG, the leading British firm in waste management in that country, acquired in 2006 by FCC, and engaging in comprehensive waste management and in providing solutions for energy recycling to meet national, regional, and local needs.

A.S.A. improves service quality in the Czech Republic

A.S.A., the Austrian subsidiary of FCC, the leader in comprehensive waste management and treatment services, including collection, transport, elimination, landfills, sorting, and recycling of waste for municipal, commercial, industrial, and private customers in the region, is the waste management leader in the Czech Republic. A.S.A. continues to increase its services to municipalities and the community while, at the same time, improving quality and strengthens its collaboration within the Group.

This year, the company has introduced several improvements in the collection and sorting of urban solid waste by launching ecological vehicles powered with compressed natural gas.

A.S.A. delivered the trucks to its subsidiaries A.S.A. Liberec and A.S.A. Ceské Budejovice in a ceremony in attended by representatives of A.S.A. CZ and the town councils of Liberec and Ceské Budejovice.

Thanks to the limited ecological impact of these trucks and their low fuel consumption, A.S.A. will be able to improve the quality of services provided to these cities and towns since these savings contribute to increasing the company's competitiveness. The FCC subsidiary plans to maintain this trend in the future and is considering acquiring more ecological waste collection vehicles in other cities which have compressed natural gas pumps.

The objective, beyond cost savings, is to reduce the impact on the environment. These types of engines produce 25% less emissions than diesel engines in addition to minor emissions of solid particles. The compressed natural gas engine is ideal for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and pollution in cities. Residents in these cities appreciate the decreased noise pollution, which is less than half of the pollution produced by diesel-powered engines.

High levels of quality

A.S.A. introduces these vehicles to further strengthen the close collaboration with these cities and towns and maintain the high levels of quality of services rendered.

The company operates in Austria, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, Hungary, Poland, and Romania, and plans to extend its operations to other Central and Eastern European countries.

Representatives of Liberec City Council, A.S.A, and the media watch a demonstration of one of the new vehicles.

FCC lands water management contracts worth 210 million euro

Aqualia, FCC's subsidiary specialized in end-to-end water management, was awarded in February a number of comprehensive water management contracts in Ibiza, Lanzarote, Tarragona, the Basque Country and Salamanca. The contracts are valued at more than 210 million euro.

Contracts awarded in Ibiza, Lanzarote, Tarragona, the Basque Country, and Salamanca

The Balearic Agency for Water and Environmental Quality awarded Aqualia the contract to upgrade, operate and maintain Ibiza's desalination system, which will supply 105,400,000 m^3 of water to the island over the next 15 years. This contract, which is worth 126 million euro, makes Aqualia the leading desalination company in Ibiza.

Aguas de Lanzarote S.A. (Inalsa), a company owned by the island government of Lanzarote, extended Aqualia's wastewater sanitation, treatment and reuse contract by an additional 12 years; the extension represents 60 million euro in revenues. Inalsa is now the largest wastewater treatment company in Lanzarote.

Aqualia signed a 25-year comprehensive water management contract with the city government of La Bisbal del Penedès (Tarragona); the contract is worth 16 million euro.

In the Basque Country, Udal Sareak, a company

belonging to the Bilbao-Bizkaia Water Consortium, which is responsible for managing the province's entire water grid, awarded Aqualia the contract to operate, maintain and handle faults in the secondary water supply grid in the municipalities of Derio, Erandio, Fruiz, Gamiz-Fika, Gatika, Larrabetzu, Lemoiz, Loiu, Maruri-Jatabe, Mungia, Plentzia and Sondika (zone A).

Also in Vizcaya, the company was awarded the contract for the operation, maintenance and upkeep of the drinking water treatment facilities in eastern Bizkaia, which includes the following plants: Garaizar (Durango); Iparraguirre, Meabe, Espila and Iruzubieta (Markina); Gazeta and Arguiñeta (Elorrio); Errotalde (Bolibar); and those in Mendexa and Leketio. The aforementioned contracts represent over 6.5 million euro in revenues and strengthen Aqualia's presence in the Basque Country.

In Salamanca, Aqualia won the contract for the maintenance and management of the water supply and sewage systems in the municipality of Aldeatejada; the five-year contract is worth almost 1 million euro.

Operates in 1,100 cities and towns

In Spain, Aqualia has a 34% share of the outsourced water management market. The company provides water services in 1,100 municipalities to more than 26 million people. It also operates in Italy, Portugal, Algeria, Czech Republic, Poland, Mexico and China. In 2007, Aqualia was named "Water Company of the Year" by the prestigious international magazine Global Water Intelligence, a fitting tribute to its track record and international scope. It was also awarded the Customer Service Leadership of the Year award by prestigious UK consulting firm Frost & Sullivan.

Frank Rogalla, Aqualia Director of Innovation and Technology during the presentation.

Aqualia attends the Fourth Wastewater Sanitation Management Seminar in Barcelona

The Catalan Water Agency (ACA, Spanish acronym) organized the Fourth Wastewater Sanitation Management Seminar in Barcelona. The presentations focused on the use of energy in the water sanitation phase.

Aqualia's Director of Innovation and Technology, Frank Rogalla, the Head of Aqualia's East Zone Sanitation Office, Pilar Icaran, and the Head of Aqualia Infrastructures division, Carlos Varela, gave a presentation Turing the seminar on "Emerging treatment processes for the re-utilization of wastewater for generating energy". Under this title, Aqualia, one of the companies invited to the seminar by ACA, described its R+D+i activity as a mainstay in its business model, also wagering for sustainable development by re-utilizing waste water to create energy.

Aqualia currently manages several wastewater treatment facilities in various areas, such as Torredembarra (Tarragona), the Baix Ebre region (towns such as Tortosa, L'Ampolla, and l'Ametlla de Mar), as well as in Costa Brava through its stake in the company Aigües de la Costa Brava. The latter is the company that is most active in R+D+i activities in the field of wastewater treatment and re-utilization in Catalonia.

The wastewater treatment facility in Baix Llobregat and the revamping of the Lleida plant are some of the key projects currently carried out by Aqualia Infrastructures.

In the photograph: Isabel Pérez Espinosa, Councilor of Water, Sanitation, the Environment, Employment, and Education of the Oviedo City Council, during her speech at the most recent seminar organized by Aqualia describing the company's communication strategy. On her right, Miguel Perea, Aqualia's Customers Director, and Santiago Lafuente, Director of Aqualia's North Zone branch office. On her left, Alfonso Tomás Solares, the city's Director of Water Services.

Water supply is the best rated public service in Oviedo

Water supply in Oviedo, managed by Aqualia, has been rated the best public service in the city as shown in the latest survey conducted by the City Council as part of its Local Agenda 21 Action Program to measure the satisfaction of the city's residents, which results have just been announced.

The aim of the survey was to gather the opinion of the residents of Oviedo on various environmental, social, and economic issues to analyze any possible suggestions or complaints in order to be able to outline new objectives as part of the Action Plan. One thousand forms entitled "Your opinion counts" were designed as part of the survey, in addition to several information posters and 500 CDs.

Users were asked to rate 27 city services, such as public transport, air quality, urban noise, healthcare, cultural offering, etc. Water supply services were the best rated and the quality of drinking water came in third place.

From left to right: Jordi Martinoy, the Representative of the Generalitat in Girona; Carles Casanova, the Mayor of Cassà de la Selva; Mireia Mata, the Regional Director of Governance and Public Administration; Emili Santos, the Regional Director of the Environment; Manel Gómez, Aqualia representative in Girona, and Pere Lloveras, the Head of Aqualia's Service in Cassà de la Selva.

Waterworks at Cassà de la Selva in Girona starts operations

In the past few months, Aqualia has been involved in several projects, worth more than 1.3 million euro, to optimize the water infrastructures in Cassà de la Selva, Girona.

Carles Casanova, the Mayor of Cassà de la Selva; Jordi Martinoy, the Representative of the Generalitat in Girona; Emili Santos, the Regional Director of the Environment; Mireia Mata, the Regional Director of Governance and Public Administration; Manel Gómez, Aqualia representative in Girona; and Pere Lloveras, the Head of Aqualia's Service in Cassà de la Selva, were in charge of turning on the valve at the Drinking Water Treatment Plant (ETAP) in the city, thereby inaugurating the new waterworks.

The treatment plant has an installed capacity of 120 m^3 / hour, which is sufficient to supply water to the town's entire population. Worth an investment of 671,146 euro, the plant is very energy-efficient and, by functioning constantly, makes it possible to clear the filter sand without having to stop operations.

Aqualia, in charge of managing the installation, recently signed an end-to-end water management contract for the town's water services expiring in 2022.

From left to right: Juan Luis Castillo, Director of Aqualia's East Zone; Iván Arcas, the mayor of Molins de Rei, and Carles Cunill, Manager of the Barcelona Metropolitan Area Environmental Entity, during the symbolic start of the facilities.

Drinking water plant inaugurated in Molins de Rei, Barcelona

Aqualia, responsible for the water supply and sanitation services in Molins de Rei, Barcelona completed construction of the town's drinking water plant, which it will also be in charge of managing.

Ivan Arcas, the mayor of Molins del Rei was present at the inauguration, and said that the "municipal water service is one of the best in the town and of the best quality thanks to the major improvements made in recent years within the scope of Aqualia's new project and model".

Manuel Hernández, the Director of the Catalan Water Agency (ACA), Carles Cunill, the Manager of the Barcelona Metropolitan Area Environmental Entity, and Juan Luis Castillo, Director of Aqualia's East Zone, were also present at the event. Juan Luis Castillo said that the work carried out at the plant was "an example of coordination between the company and the public sector".

As part of the water treatment project, Aqualia was responsible for revamping the water capturing well at l'Urgellet, which had been closed since 1998; replacing all pump, pipes, and valves, installing meters for measuring the flow of water, electrical installations and telecontrol system. All these measures, which are designed to increase the availability of water supply in the town, are part of the plan aimed at recovering water-capturing facilities that had remained idle during the drought period.

Winning the contract for the construction and management of this plant bolsters Aqualia's positioning in the Catalan market. Aqualia continues to expand in the Barcelona metropolitan area where it manages the comprehensive water cycle services in Sant Andreu de la Barca and in Sant Vicent dels Horts, where it also built the drinking water treatment plant.

CEMENT

Cementos Portland Valderrivas restores the Eguibil quarry in Olazagutía, Navarre

The restoration project involved 13,000 m² of the Eguibil quarry, the source of one million tons per year of limestone for the Olazagutía cement factory.

Cementos Portland Valderrivas completed restoration work at the Eguibil quarry in Olazagutía, on the skirts of the Urbasa mountain range. The quarry supplies one million tons per year of limestone that is used at the cement factory situated in this town.

The restoration project affected 13,000 meters square in the north part of the quarry which had been filled with earth from the upper part of the mountain.

Diminished visual impact of the quarry

Reforestation work in the area has created a visual barrier to diminish the impact of quarry activity in the surrounding area.

Hydroseeding, to support growth of other plant species in this zone, was the first phase of the restoration work. Planting began in November following the

South of Olazagutía

The Eguibil quarry, on the skirts of the Urbasa mountain, south of Olazagutía, occupies a 782,146 square meters area. Quality limestone, from sedimentary rocks formed by the accumulation of organic material, is one of the raw materials used in the cement manufacturing process.

instructions of gardening experts who specialize in the restoration of quarries. Wire netting (3x3) was installed to ensure thick plant growth.

Most of the species planted are autochthonous, although another one, not a native of this region, was used thanks to its rapid growth, in order to create a visual barrier as soon as possible.

In addition, in order to ensure the successful growth of the restored region, the area was fenced off to prevent sheep and goats from rummaging in the area and eating the plants.

Cementos Portland Valderrivas spends 60,000 euro every year in quarry restoration work.

Restoration work

Enlargement of the rockfill area

Two-level slopes were made, sufficiently wide at the slope in order to provide sufficient space for safe machine operations, during and after hydroseeding and the new plantings this year as well as for subsequent maintenance work.

Replanting

The area full of earth that was previously removed during quarrying operations was replanted to create a visual screen. The restored area extends over a 12,835 m^2 area. The following work was carried out:

- Hydroseeding at 30g/m^2 containing the following seed mixture: 15% Agropirum cristarum; 10% Festuca arundinacea; 20% Festuca rubra; 35% Lolium rigidum; 5% Medicago sp; 5% Trifolium repens; 10% Vicia sativa and 2 kg/tank of Cytissu scoparius.
- Planting of 1,500 species in a 3x 3 wire netting. Pinus nigra, a non-autochthonous species was planted since it grows faster than native plants. This species was placed in the highest part of the area to be restored to create a visual barrier as soon as possible. Other species planted include: Corylus chestnut; Cornus sanguinea (Magic Flame); Prunus spinosa; Crategus monogina; Juniperus comunis; Quercus robar; Prunus avium; Fagus sylvatica; Sorbus aucuparia and Betula alba.
- The restored area was fenced in and appropriate signs were installed to prevent the entrance of animals and of people who do not work at the quarry.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

FCC participates in the 5th World Water Forum, in Istanbul

Access to water and sanitation is a human right. This was reaffirmed in the 5th World Water Forum held from 16 to 22 March in Istanbul, Turkey, where various countries, including Spain, undertook to take the necessary measures for the gradual implementation of this right.

The objective of this meeting, held every three years since 1997, is to analyze the situation with regards to water resources in the world.

The Spanish delegation, headed by Elena Espinosa, Ministry of the Environment, the Rural and Sea Habitats, also included Marta Morén, General Director of Water. The minister stressed that it was imperative to continue making efforts to safe water, not just in Spain, but also in all parts of the world.

Aqualia, the FCC subsidiary specializing in end-to-end water management, participated at this summit jointly with more than 33,000 people, including heads of State and Governments, representatives from ministries and municipalities, and technicians from

In the photograph, Marta Morén, General Director of Water at the Ministry of the Environment, Rural and Sea Habitats, during the inauguration of the Spanish stand.

Enrique Hernández, Aqualia's Director of Service Management during his speech.

many parts of the world, for the purpose of taking urgent measures to advance in the goal of making water and sanitation accessible to all, as well to take care of it in view of the shortage of this element and the impact of climate change.

Several companies from the industry and various associations, such as ATTA (Association for Water Technology and Treatment) and AEAS (Spanish Association of Water Supply and Treatment) were present at this event, through which Aqualia and Aqualia Infrastructures participated, with Enrique Hernández, Director of Service Management and Javier Santiago, Managing Director, representing these companies, respectively.

The Spanish stand offered several interesting presentations, such as the final document issued at the Water Tribunal in the Zaragoza Expo. In addition, various technical seminars were organized, including "Innovation in the supply sector" sponsored by AEAS, and another one organized by the Ministry on Climate Change. The Ministry will publish the presentations and conclusions of the Spanish representatives at its website, www.foromundialdelagua.com.

A Ministerial Declaration, proposals by parliamentarians, the Istanbul Water Consensus, the support of the European Parliament, and the consensus of 45 major local authorities on water commitments were among the results of this Forum.

This Forum, the objective of which was to dwell in depth on the proposals made in the previous event held in Mexico in 2006, concluded with a view towards its next meeting, scheduled for the year 2012.

Proactiva Medio Ambiente attends the 5th World Water Forum

On 24 March, Interagua, with the collaboration of the Guayaquil City Council, held the World Water Day, with the participation of 150 children from the Comprehensive Municipal Assistance Centers (CAMIs).

Proactiva Medio Ambiente, (a 50-50% FCC and Veolia company) which specializes in end-to-end water and waste management in Latin America, attended the 5th World Water Forum held in Istanbul through its Ecuadorian affiliate Interagua.

This company's experience in Guayaquil and the application of its concession model will be used as an example by other sectors in the world. Interagua's Manager, José Fernández, described the public-private concession model which handles drinking water supply and sanitation in Guayaquil and which considered today "a good example of a concession model".

He said that in the last two years, the company had supplied water to two million people in this city. José Fernández also said "as a concession company, we are here to show and to say that we will continue improving the services for which we, as a concession company, are responsible".

FCC participates in the Equality and Reconciliation Workshop organized by Madrid Excelente

Madrid Excelente organized a seminar at the Promadrid Auditorium on 31 Marcg on Equality and Reconciliation for companies, associations, and business organizations.

The director-general for Women's Affairs of the Community of Madrid, María José Pérez-Cejuela, opened the event together with the managing director of the Madrid por la Excelencia Foundation, Alejandra Polacci, and the chairman of Promomadrid, Jesús Sainz.

EQUALITY is a universal right

Alejandra Polacci stressed the importance of corporate social responsibility. "There is no excellent company that does not practice CSR," she said. She also underlined the benefits reaped by companies that favor reconciliation: "They get better motivation, involvement, participation, performance and organization of work, plus they reduce turnover, absence and stress; as a result, the company's profitability goes up".

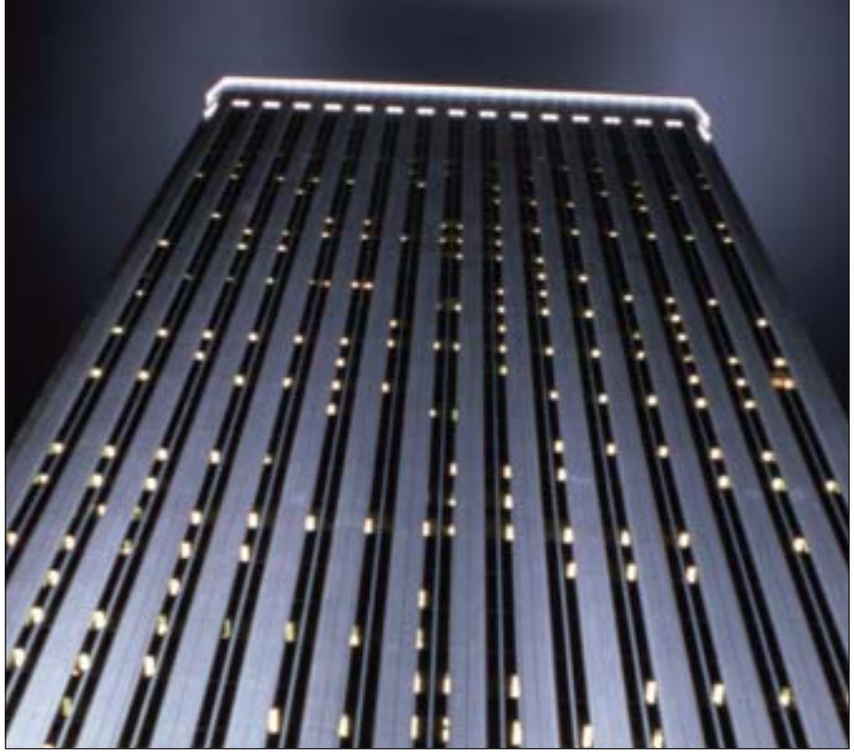
Different companies that hold the Madrid Excelente seal of approval, including BT Iberia, FCC, Iberdrola, the Gesor Group and SM, companies that stand out for their good management of equality and reconciliation issues, shared their practical experience.

Luis Suárez, the FCC Group's Industrial Relations manager, presented FCC Construcción's Equality Plan, which was signed with trade unions on 19 November last and will remain in force until 31 December 2012. This plan is an orderly set of measures aimed at achieving equal treatment and opportunities for women and men and at wiping out any trace of discrimination for reason of sex. FCC Construcción is the first company in its sector in Spain to have an equality plan and one of the few companies that have launched such a plan at all, according to a report by the Ministry of Equality. The FCC Group's Environmental Services division also signed an equality plan of its own in December last.

The closing speech was given by Eva Piera, Deputy-Councilor of the Community of Madrid's Economy, Trade and Consumer Affairs Department. She affirmed, "Today the best way of attracting talent is to apply equality and reconciliation policies at work", and she stressed that "reconciliation is synonymous with business competitiveness", reasoning, "The companies that favor reconciliation and equality are more competitive, because their employees are more satisfied, perform better and are more productive".

In the photograph: BT Iberia Human Resources Director Laura Mendiguren; Iberdrola Reconciliation and Equality Officer María Ángeles Alcázar; FCC Industrial Relations Director Luis Suárez; Bernardo Lorenzo, managing partner in the Gesor Group; SM Human Relations Manager María Luisa Orlando.

SIBILITY



Madrid City Hall gives award to Torre Picasso

Alberto Ruiz-Gallardón, the mayor of Madrid, gave a diploma to the manager of Torre Picasso, Guillermo Alcaide, in appreciation for the collaboration and support that the building has given to the city's firefighters' force.

The award was given on the festivity of Saint John of God, patron saint of Madrid's firemen, who periodically conduct training activities at Torre Picasso.

FCC Construcción and Bovis Lend Lease enter into an agreement for the prevention of occupational hazards

FCC Construcción and Bovis Lend Lease, a company specializing in project management, reached a collaboration agreement in relation to occupational hazards.

The agreement was signed by Francisco José García, General Manager of FCC Construcción, and Alberto de Frutos, the General Manager of Bovis Lend Lease S.A.

This agreement represents the first step in a collaboration relationship for ensuring that all the progress made in relation to occupational hazards, lessons learned, and best practices of each of the companies are shared and jointly implemented.

This agreement aims for constant improvement and greater understanding between both companies to generate added value for its customers through projects that stand for excellence in Safety and Health and the prevention of Occupational Hazards. This will ensure greater productivity during project execution phases (reduce sick-leave due to accidents at the work place, improve production by using faster and safer methods…) and lower direct and indirect costs by reducing the accident rate (less expensive insurance premiums, reduction in compensation for damages to third parties, less fines for infractions,…).

ALPINE and art: “Perspectives” by Erwin Kastner

FCC’s Austrian subsidiary, ALPINE, once again lent its Vienna headquarters to house the new “Perspectives” exhibition by the spontaneous realism artist, Erwin Kastner. His paintings are inspired by themes taken from everyday life but from a dynamic standpoint, also characterized by brilliant colors and astounding design.

Peter Preindl, the Managing Director of ALPINE said the objective of these exhibitions was to add an artistic flair to day-to-day construction activity and offer a platform for the most relevant modern day artists.

FCC sponsors an Austrian musical event in Peking

ALPINE was one of the leading sponsors of the Gala event held in Peking and supported by the charity, Aldeas Infantiles SOS of Austria and for the benefit of the same organization in China.

The major event, organized by the Austrian embassy and other companies, included a program with well known Austrian artists such as Lydia Rathkolb (soprano), Sebastian Holecek (tenor) and Manfred Schiebel (pianist) of the Vienna Opera. The evening was a major success and contributed to underscoring ALPINE’s social commitment.

SIBILITY

FCC donates 3,500 advertising spaces to ADENA for the “Earth hour campaign”

FCC Group has donated advertising space on 3,500 bus stop billboards throughout Spain to WWF/Adena for the largest-ever campaign in defense of the environment, Earth Hour, scheduled for Saturday 28 March.

Earth Hour aims to involve governments, communities and businesses in a joint effort to call attention to the effects of global warming and demand that political leaders take action to control CO_2 emissions.

Fight against climate change

Fighting climate change is a priority line of action in FCC's Corporate Social Responsibility Master Plan (2009-2010).

This includes reducing greenhouse gas emissions from its cement plants through processes that are very energy efficient and using alternative fuels; developing sustainable transport, such as the Episol electric car; making its offices more environmentally friendly; participating in bioclimatic architecture projects; and using energy-from-waste technologies.

The most important campaign ever in defense of the environment

WWF's Earth Hour Day, in which 4,000 cities participate, has become one of the most important mass participation events in the world's history. The organization's original objective, 1,000 participating cities, has increased by four times that number. It is estimated that about 1.2 billion people will join this initiative, that is, one-sixth of the world's population.

The objective of Earth Hour Day is to build awareness among the population with regard to the threats posed by climate change and to show that it is possible to take action, individually or on a global basis. The campaign stresses the importance of making minor changes in day-to-day life, such as replacing light bulbs with fluorescent lights or reducing energy consumption.

In fact, this WWF initiative aims to send a message to global leaders who will be meeting this year in December in Copenhagen to sign a new global treaty on climate change to give continuity to the current Kyoto Protocol.

Hundreds of landmark Spanish buildings and monuments were left in darkness, including the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Barcelona; the Puerta de Alcalá, the Royal Palace and the congressional building in Madrid; the Plaza del Pilar and the City Hall building in Zaragoza; the Aqueduct and Cathedral in Segovia; the Giralda and Torre de Oro in Seville; the Alhambra in Granada; and the City Hall and Palau de la Música in Valencia.

SIBILITY

Rubbish collection and street cleaning. Zaragoza
ZARAGOZA
Since day one
working for a better environment
FCC
www.fcc.es