

COMSA: The interface management with Banedanmark and COVID effects are the main reasons for the delay in the light rail in Odense

4 December 2021. COMSA is proud to be the main contractor on the light rail in Odense. The light rail will bind the city together and ensure a fast and efficient transport for everyone in Odense.

We deeply regret the delay to operation of the light rail as well as all prejudices that such delay might cause to the residents of Odense and we keep committed, as during all the execution of the Project, to achieve handover as soon as is feasible in the face of current constraints.

However, COMSA is forced to counter some of the statements that have emerged from the Odense Light Rail in recent days.

COMSA confirms that there is a dispute between Comsa and Odense Letbane in relation to the contractual responsibility to obtain Banedanmark approvals and the effects of the pandemic COVID-19. These disputes, unfortunately, have not been possible to be settled between the parties to date and COMSA maintains its entitlement to extension of time for completion and financial compensation.

COMSA is of the opinion that the contract clearly states that the responsibility for the interface management is on Odense Letbane.

COMSA rejects any other interpretation of the contract considering that OL clearly had responsibility for the interface with Banedanmark. This was a sensible and logical arrangement given that COMSA is a foreign construction company, whereas Banedanmark and OL are public funded entities with the same ultimate shareholder. As the interface owner, all communications to and from Banedanmark are through OL who is responsible for timely communication of all issues required to obtain approval.

COMSA has for a long time reported to OL that the issue of Banedanmark approvals is critical to final handover and have provided OL with updated completion estimates on a monthly basis. COMSA has for a long time identified the risk of completion into 2022 if issues related to Banedanmark approvals issues were not quickly resolved. To this extent, COMSA requested OL to exercise its influence as Interface Manager to ensure approval can be achieved in time.



In addition, the pandemic COVID-19 also impacted significantly the work progress of the Project arising out the restrictions and limitations to perform some activities, what has been duly claimed to Odense Letbane as COMSA continued working under such circumstances to ensure the good end of the Project.

All these circumstances have caused a delay in the handover of the light rail. COMSA has always maintained its commitment to the project and continued with the work, notwithstanding the numerous issues, despite OL continuing to withhold huge penalties and for which COMSA does not believe it is liable and despite the negative financial impact that this imposes.

About COMSA Corporación

COMSA Corporación is a global sustainable infrastructure group with 130 years of history. In 2020 it recorded sales of 778 Million Euros, with a workforce of more than 5.300 workers and operating in over 20 countries around the world.

COMSA Corporación has a broad international experience in the construction of light rails, tramways and metros such as the projects built in the cities of Dublin (Ireland), Ankara, Gaziantep and Bursa (Turkey), Sao Paulo (Brasil), Mexico City (Mexico), Porto (Portugal), Barcelona, Valencia, Alicante, Tenerife, Murcia, San Sebastián, Bilbao, Málaga, Sevilla, Alcalá de Guadaira and Madrid (Spain)

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