The recent decades have witnessed significant investment in urban rail systems. This trend is expected to continue at least up to 2050. Urban population continues to grow and rail-based public transport systems are offering a sustainable solution for meeting the increasing mobility demand.

Urban rail systems combine flexibly with other modes of travel to reduce congestion, lower pollution levels, improve passenger safety and stimulate the economy. The extension of existing urban rail systems and development of new systems benefit communities and provide many attractive opportunities for the government and the industry.

Global Mass Transit Research has just released a database with up-to-date information on 500 urban rail projects from across the world. The report comprises a PDF document and a Microsoft Excel database.

The database will be updated regularly. A quarterly report on new developments in the projects will be sent to the subscribers at the end of every quarter. In future, the database will also be available online.

There are two distinct sections.

Part 1 comprises a PDF document of 66 pages. It includes an analysis of the projects based on geographic region (North America, Latin America, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Africa), development stage (planned, in procurement, or under construction), mode (light-rail, tram, monorail, automated people mover [APM], metrorail, subway, rapid transit, airport rail link [ARL], commuter rail), and type of project (new line of an existing system, extension of existing line, or new system).

Part 2 includes the Microsoft Excel file. It provides detailed and up-to-date information on each project, including developer/operator, expected opening, capital cost, sources of funds, key contractors, line length, route, stations, connections with other public transport modes, expected ridership and service frequency, fare system, rolling stock, track, power, signalling technology, and contact person/organisation for the project. There are separate Excel workbooks for each of the five geographic regions.

The database will be useful to organisations interested in urban railways-government agencies, transport authorities, operators, service and technology providers, equipment manufacturers and suppliers, EPC contractors, investors/lenders, research organisations, industry consultants, regulatory agencies, development institutions, etc.

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Sources and Methodology

Global Mass Transit Research’s industry analysts have utilised primary and secondary research sources in preparing this report. Primary sources include information obtained through telephone interviews and emails from public transport authorities, operators and regulators. Secondary sources include, but are not limited to, project websites and status reports; websites, annual reports, capital programmes and financial reports of transport authorities and operators; documentation provided by relevant financing institutions; investor presentations; analyst reports; government plans and documents; websites of ministries and regulators; websites of industry associations; internal and external proprietary databases; news articles; and press release reports. Wherever applicable, research sources are cited within the report.

Our analysts and researchers have combined the information from these primary and secondary sources with their industry expertise to synthesise the qualitative and quantitative analysis presented in this report. In cases where data was not available, we have used the estimates from authentic published reports or press releases.

Great care has been taken to ensure that all analysis is supported by facts. In situations where facts were not available and assumptions were made to conduct analysis, we have explained our assumptions and our methods of estimation.

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