



**GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
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PRESS RELEASE

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“Government Awards Major Infrastructure Contract.”

The Government has awarded a contract for major infrastructure works to OBRASCON Huarte Lain SA in the sum of £30,231,068.

The contract includes design and construction of the following:

- (1) a dual carriage way (four lanes) from the commercial gate at the frontier to the junction of Eastern Beach Road and Devil’s Tower Road (via Eastern Beach).
- (2) A tunnel under the eastern end of the runway consisting of four traffic lanes and a separate tunnel for pedestrians and a cycle path. There will also be a tunnel control centre.
- (3) An aviation fuel storage tank farm buried underground on the north side of the runway.
- (4) An offshore structure (around 100 metres off the eastern end of the runway) to provide aircraft approach lighting required by modern aviation practices and procedures.

The new road will run east/west just south of frontier, pass under the tunnel at the eastern end of the runway, proceeds parallel to Eastern Beach Road along the rear of Mediterranean Hotel and Sunrise View, and join a new roundabout at the junction of Eastern Beach Road and Devil’s Tower Road via the Ariel Farm. Eastern Beach and Eastern Beach Road are unaffected, except that there will be a new car park on the beach side of Eastern Beach Road.

The works will have a duration of 24 months including a lead-in period for the design and approvals process of six to eight months. During this lead in period the contractor will also mobilise its site based operations and carry out enabling works in advance of the main contract works which are expected to start, physically, in April/May 2009.

6 offers were received and the award has been made in favour of the most economically advantageous bid. The tender process has strictly adhered to applicable EU tender procedures.

A spokesman for No 6 Convent Place said: - "Together with the new air terminal and nearby multi-storey car parks, this project represents a major investment in upgrading Gibraltar's infrastructure for the future. It also represents a major investment in addressing, once and for all, one of the biggest sources of traffic congestion and delays in Gibraltar, namely eliminating the present need to bring traffic to a standstill for upto 20 minutes when aircraft land or take-off".