

# Algiers finally inaugurates metro Line 1

THE president of Algeria, Mr Abdelaziz Bouteflika, inaugurated train operation on the first section of Line 1 of the Algiers metro on October 31. The 9km section has 10 stations and runs from Tafourah Grande Poste in the city centre to Hai el Badr. Algiers Metro Enterprise (EMA) expects the line eventually to carry 300,000 passengers a day.

The metro has been built as a turnkey project by a consortium led by Siemens and including Vinci Construction Grands Projets, France, and CAF, Spain. The line will be operated by RATP El Djazaïr, a subsidiary of Paris Transport Authority.

Siemens was responsible for installing track, electrification and power supply, fare collection equipment and the entire signalling and train control system. The latter comprised its Trainguard MT



*President Abdelaziz Bouteflika takes his first trip on the metro.*

communications-based train control (CBTC) system, Airlink radio system and Digiloc train location system.

Vinci was responsible for the civil works, escalators, tunnel and station ventilation, the control centre, and maintenance depot, while CAF supplied a fleet of 14 six-car trains.

A 3.5km extension to Line 1 and two more lines are planned.