



HARAMAIN PROJECT: MECCA – MEDINA

The construction of the first high-speed line in a desert area began in 2011. It connects Mecca and Medina, the two most important holy cities of Islam.

Millions of pilgrims and tourists are now able to cover the 444-kilometre distance in only about two hours. Technically challenging: a quarter of the route is threatened by siltation.

The low maintenance requirements and the multiple testing of the RHEDA 2000® system were therefore decisive for the selection of the system. The high-speed line was opened in January 2018.

PROJECT DETAILS:

- Temperatures in the desert region fluctuate between extremes of -10 °C and +55 °C
- The operating speed is up to 320 km/h
- The rest of the line was equipped with ballasted track sleepers that can be flexibly adapted to the ground
- RAILONE's scope of supply comprised approx. 210,000 RHEDA 2000® sleepers and approx. 500,000 ballasted track sleepers, manufactured in the concrete sleeper plant in Ha'il, Saudi Arabia
- In addition, RAILONE supplied sleepers for the high-speed turnouts, which are also built in RHEDA 2000® ballastless track, and supported the project team on site with additional engineering services relating to special issues regarding the planning, construction, and maintenance of ballastless track systems

