JOINT STOCK COMPANY "UNITSKY SCIENTIFIC & PRODUCTION COMPANY"

PROPOSAL

HIGH-SPEED TWO-WAY CARGO AND PASSENGER STRING TRANSPORT ROUTE

# "ABU DHABI – DUBAI – SHARJAH"



Moscow 2001

#### High-Speed Two-Way Cargo and Passenger String Transport Route "ABU DHABI – DUBAI – SHARJAH" (138 km)

Unitsky String Transport System (UST) represents a string-rail road with four wheeled high-speed transport modules (*avtolets or autoplanes*) moving over them at the speeds of 100 to 500 km per hour and having passenger capacity of 1 to 40 persons, and nominal cargo load of 10 tons.

The distinguishing feature of the system is the strings inside a rail, pulled out with the total force of about 250 tons per one string-rail.

Strings are tightly attached to the anchor supporters, placed at every 500-2000. The intermediate supporters of 10-50 m high, placed at every 50-100 m support the string route structure.



Picture 1. Variant of the UST route "Abu Dhabi - Dubai - Sharjah"



Picture 2. Passenger module: a) external design; b) interior.

- Capacity 25 passengers.
- Calculated cruise speed 250 km/h.
- Design (ultimate) speed 350 km/h.
- Engine drive: internal combustion engine (diesel) 120 KWt powerful.
- Fuel consumption (diesel fuel) at the cruise speed 200 km/h 12 litre/per 100.



Picture 3. Cargo module for container deliveries:

a) exterior design; b) arrangements of cargo and parts.

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- Cargo capacity 6000 kg. Calculated cruise speed 250 km/h. •
- Design (ultimate) speed 350 km/h. •
- Drive: internal combustion engine (diesel) 75 KWt powerful.
- Fuel consumption (diesel fuel) at the cruise speed of 250 km/h 7.5 litre/100 km. •



Picture 4. Cargo module for transporting liquids (oil and oil products, potable water, etc.): a) exterior design; b) arrangement of tanks and parts.

- Cargo capacity 6000 kg.
- Calculated cruise speed 250 km/h.
- Design (ultimate) speed 350 km/h.
- Drive: internal combustion engine (diesel) 75 KWt powerful.
- Fuel consumption (diesel fuel) at the cruise speed of 250 km/h 7.5 litre/100 km.

### Technical and Economic Characteristics of a two-way UST High-Speed Route "ABU DHABI – DUBAI – SHARJAH"

Type of string road route – cargo and passenger route. Distance range – 138 km. Cost – USD 280 mln (See Table 1). Calculated optimal speed of transport modules – 250 km per hour. Time en route – 42 min. Average height of supporters – 25 m. Average flyover between the supporters – 50 m (at sea – 100 m). Maximal passenger turnover:

- Passenger 50 mln passengers per year.
- Cargo 100 mln tons per year.

Self-cost of transportation (distance 138 km):

- One passenger USD 1,5.
- One ton of cargo USD 1,5.

Expected passenger turnover (distance 138 km) – 12 mln passengers per year.

Expected cargo turnover (distance 138 km) – 6 mln tons per year.

Table 1

#### Approximate cost of the UST route "Abu Dhabi – Dubai – Sharjah"

| UST Route Composition Parts            | Volume | Cost of one   | Total cost, |
|--|--------|---------------|-------------|
|  | of the | unit of work, | in          |
|  | work   | in thousands  | thousands   |
|  |        | of USD        | of USD      |
| 1. Transport route, total,             | 138 km | -             | 142,800     |
| including:                             |        |               |             |
| 1.1. Route structure                   | 138 km | 450           | 62,100      |
| 1.2. Basements and supporters          | 138 km | 550           | 75,900      |
| 1.3. Technical control system over the |        |               |             |
| sate and condition of route structure  | 138 km | 11,6          | 1,600       |
| 1.4. Radio rely system of control of   |        |               |             |
| transport traffic                      | 138 km | 23,2          | 3,200       |
| 2. Cost of infrastructure, total,      | -      | -             | 60,000      |
| including:                             |        |               |             |
| 2.1. Stations                          | 3      | 5000          | 15,000      |
| 2.2. Cargo terminals                   | 3      | 10000         | 30,000      |
| 2.3. Depot and repair shops            | 1      | 15000         | 15,000      |

| UST Route Composition Parts              | Volume | Cost of one   | Total cost, |
|--|--------|---------------|-------------|
|  | of the | unit of work, | in          |
|  | work   | in thousands  | thousands   |
|  |        | of USD        | of USD      |
| 3. Modules, total,                       | -      | -             | 16,400      |
| including:                               |        |               |             |
| 3.1. Passenger modules                   | 90     | 100           | 9,000       |
| 3.2. Cargo modules                       | 220    | 20            | 4,400       |
| 3.3. Technical support reserve modules   | 30     | 50            | 1,500       |
| 3.4. Technical control over the state of |        |               |             |
| the route and emergency support          | 10     | 150           | 1,500       |
| 4. Cost increase on more complicated     |        |               |             |
| route crossings (going through mountain, |        |               |             |
| costal sea, trespassing the              |        |               |             |
| communications)                          | 30 km  | 500           | 15,000      |
| 5. Engineering prospecting works         | 150 km | 20            | 3,000       |
| 6. Design works for route structure,     |        |               |             |
| modules, infrastructure and control      |        |               |             |
| systems                                  | -      | -             | 20,000      |
| 7. Other costs and unforeseen costs      | _      | -             | 21,300      |
| Total:                                   | -      | -             | 280,000     |

#### Expected passenger turnover

1 two-way trip for each country resident and tourist: 12 mln passengers per year (2 trips x (3 mln people + 3 mln people)).

#### Expected cargo turnover

2 tons of cargo per each country resident: 6 mln tons per year.

#### Amount of transport modules needed

1. Passenger module (25 seats).

One module will make 24 trips per 24 hours. At the average occupancy coefficient of 0.8 and average module use coefficient of 0.8, each module will transport 384 passenger per 24 hours, and 140,000 per year. That is in order to transport 12 mln of passengers per year 86 modules are needed.

2. Cargo module (capacity 6 tons).

One cargo module will make 20 trips per 24 hours. At the loading coefficient of 0.8 of and module use coefficient of 0.8, each module will

transport 76 tons of cargo per 24 hours and 27,700 tons per year. In order to transport 6 mln tons of cargo per year 220 cargo modules are needed.

#### Time en route

Time spent by passenger on trip from the Abu-Dhabi Center to the Center of Sharjah will be 42 min (See Table 2).

Table 2

| N⁰ | Type of transportation process                     | Time, in min |
|----|--|--------------|
| 1  | Waiting for boarding                               | 1            |
| 2  | Passenger boarding                                 | 1.5          |
| 3  | Waiting for trip                                   | 0.5          |
| 4  | Merging the transport module into the traffic flow | 0.5          |
| 5  | Boosting the speed up to 250 km/h                  | 1.5          |
| 6  | Moving en route                                    | 32           |
| 7  | Breaking the transport module                      | 1.5          |
| 8  | Entering the station                               | 1            |
| 9  | Unboarding passengers                              | 1.5          |
| 10 | Unforeseen losses of time                          | 1            |
|    | Total:   | 42           |

## Economic efficiency and profit return

At the cost of the trip "Abu Dhabi – Dubai – Sharjah" at USD 5 (selfcost of the trip is USD 1.5 per passenger) and the cargo tariff of USD 5 per ton (self-cost is USD 1.5 per ton), the yearly return from the string route exploitation will be:

 $D = 12.000.000 \text{ pass.} \times (5 - 1,5) \text{ USD/passenger} + 6.000.000 \text{ t} \times (5 - 1,5) \text{ USD/t} = 63.000.000 \text{ USD}.$ 

The route will return the investments in 4.5-5 years.

Profit efficiency of the route will be 100-200%, depending on the level of taxation.

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