



THEME

# 2ND INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY CONFERENCE & EXPO 2025

A VISIONARY PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S  
RAIL FUTURE

**DATE:** SEPTEMBER 15TH & 16TH 2025



**VENUE:** LADI KWALI HALL,  
ABUJA CONTINENTAL HOTEL, ABUJA, NIGERIA









## A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE NIGERIAN RAILWAY SECTOR

**T**he history of the Nigerian Railway system is closely linked to the evolution of the Nigerian State in the pre-colonial/colonial/early Independence era which witnessed the construction of the Narrow Gauge railway network between 1898 and 1964. The narrow gauge rail network consists of the Western (Lagos-Kano) and Eastern (Port Harcourt – Maiduguri) Lines with a total length of 3,500km of single track of 1,067mm gauge. The Western line that spans Lagos to Kano via Kaduna with branch lines to Apapa, Idogo, Baro and Kaura Namoda was built between 1898 and 1915 and measures approximately 1,800km. The Eastern line which stretches from Port Harcourt to Maiduguri with Branch Lines to Eleme, Nkalagu, Kaduna and Jos was constructed between 1914 and 1964 and measures approximately 2,044km.

The Western and Eastern Rail lines are connected by a link from Kafanchan to Kaduna Junction. The narrow gauge railway system undoubtedly has the widest reach across the country and has been a critical part of Nigerian socio-political and economic history with significant impact on the unity and social cohesion of the country. In 1962 and 1964, the Nigerian Railway Corporation's operations on the narrow gauge lines recorded peak values when over 12 million passengers and 3 million tons of goods were transported per annum. Regrettably, the nation's rail development programme suffered a drastic decline in subsequent years following the prosecution of the Nigerian Civil War and Governmental delay in prioritizing the development of a modern railway system for the country, especially after the Oil Boom of the Seventies.





In 1978, Nigeria commenced the development of standard gauge lines with the commencement of the construction of the Warri - Ajaokuta – Itakpe (328kms) Line meant primarily to serve as a supply/evacuation link for the Ajaokuta Steel Complex. Since then, the country has constructed and commissioned a total of approximately about 693kms of standard gauge tracks including stations and other infrastructure. These include the single track line between Abuja and Kaduna (186kms); and a double track line between Lagos and Ibadan (179.65kms). Contracts are currently being implemented on the construction of a single track line between Kano and Maradi in Niger Republic (with a Branch Line from Kano – Dutse) (378kms) as well as a double track line between Kano and Kaduna (203kms). There are also a number of contracts awarded for rehabilitation of existing rail infrastructure and the construction of new lines that remain outstanding due to funding challenges. Other facilities have also been developed including a Wagon Assembly plant in Kajola and a Transportation University in Daura, Katsina State.

The Federal Government having realized the challenges and the demand for rail transportation, considered the repositioning of the Nigerian Railway System and in 2002 approved a “25 Strategic Vision” for railway development to address issues faced by the sector. The vision summarizes the transformation of the Nigerian Railway Sector into 3 phases of System Transition, System Modernisation and System Stabilization.

Given the historical challenges which have bedeviled the rail sector despite the opportunities offered within the country’s economy (which is currently one of the leading economies in Africa), analysts and investors have for long clamoured for the liberalization of the

rail sector in order to galvanize greater sub-national and private sector participation. The Government has heeded this call and on 3rd March 2023, the President signed into law, the Constitution Amendment 5th Alteration (No. 16) Act which is “an Act to alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 to move the item “railways” from the Exclusive Legislative List to the Concurrent Legislative List; and for related matters”. This meant that the States, Local Governments and private investors are now permitted to construct and own railways for the public carriage of people and goods across the country.

With the new law now in place, supported by greater political will by the Federal Government and increased private sector interest in the sector, there is no doubt that the future of the railway sector in Nigeria is indeed bright and ready to achieve all its abundant economic promises.







# Welcome to a Historic Moment in African Transportation

The Federal Ministry of Transportation, in collaboration with De-Sadel Consortium, and other stake holders proudly presents the 2nd International Railway Conference & Expo 2025—a milestone gathering of global leaders, innovators, investors, and stakeholders dedicated to transforming Africa's rail sector. This is more than a conference, it is a platform to discuss the future of Africa's railway.

## Why This Conference Matters

1. Presentation of the proposed Africa's First and the World's Second 4,000 km , 350km/h High-Speed Rail System
2. Advancing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and regional integration
3. Opening new doors for infrastructure investment and public-private collaboration

4. Showcasing the investment potentials in Africa's railway sector to the global community.
5. Consolidation with the existing partners in industry

## Africa's Future on Track

At the heart of the Expo is the presentation of the proposed 4,000 km ultra-high-speed rail system—the first of its kind in Africa and the second in the world. This transformative system will redefine mobility, dramatically reduce travel time, and empower African economies through state-of-the-art rail infrastructure.

**Sponsorship Opportunities:** Gain premium brand placement, unmatched visibility, and exclusive access to Africa's rail transformation.

## Contact us at support @

internationalrailwaysconference.ng or call: **+234 903 959 8366** or **+234 703 912 1732** to secure your role in this historic moment.





### **A Strategic Partnership For Impact**

De-Sadel Consortium, a leader in engineering, energy, and infrastructure development, is spearheading a transformative initiative alongside other stakeholders, in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Transportation, to deliver citizen-focused solutions, high impact projects that attract global investment and support long-term growth in railway business.

Together, they are creating a bold new future for African transportation.

### **High-Level Participation**

This landmark event will bring together:

- The President of Nigeria
- Heads of State from Africa and beyond
- Former Presidents and Global Dignitaries
- The Secretary to the Government of the Federation
- legislators

- Federal and International Ministers
- Senior Policymakers and Advisors
- Global Investors and Development Institutions
- Financial institutions
- Executives in Transport, Infrastructure, Technology, and Finance.

### **Join Us in Shaping Africa's Rail Future**

It is a defining moment for Africa. Together, we will pave the way for a connected, prosperous, and future ready continent. Be part of history. Witness the future. Join us in Abuja, Nigeria, West Africa.







**His Excellency, President  
Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR,**  
President of the Federal Republic of  
Nigeria

His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, is a visionary leader and reform-minded statesman serving as the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. With a distinguished record of transformative leadership, he has become a pivotal figure in Africa's pursuit of integrated development, sustainable infrastructure, and economic revitalization. As the keynote speaker at the 2nd International Railway Conference & Expo 2025, President Tinubu brings a global perspective and practical experience to discussions on Africa's transportation future.

Since assuming office, President Tinubu has championed the Renewed Hope Agenda, a national framework driving economic transformation through bold investments in critical infrastructure, with a

strong emphasis on rail development as a catalyst for regional connectivity, industrialization, and inclusive growth. His administration has prioritized the rehabilitation and modernization of Nigeria's railway network, as evidenced by projects such as the Kano-Maradi Standard Gauge Railway by Mota-Engil Nigeria Ltd., the Kaduna-Kano Standard Gauge Project by CCECC, and the rehabilitation of the Port Harcourt-Aba Narrow Gauge Railway by CCECC. Recognizing the vital role of rail transportation in enhancing trade logistics, his government is focused on upgrading existing corridors, expanding intra- and intercity rail lines, and advancing strategic plans for high-speed rail integration.

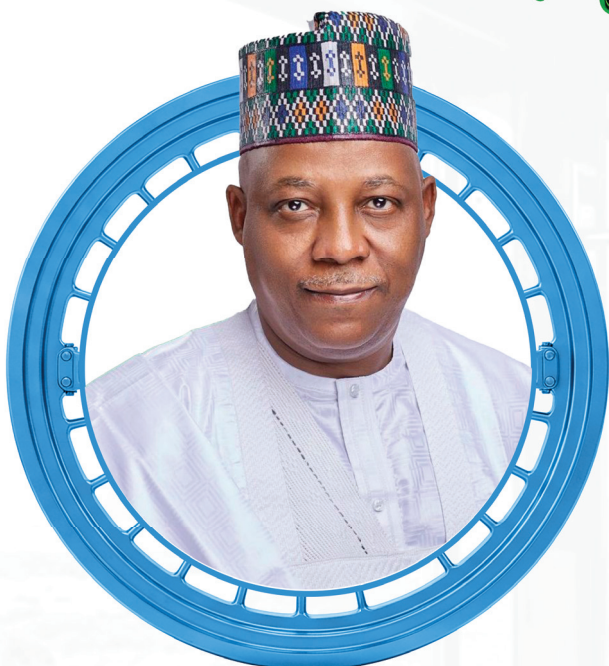
President Tinubu's reforms has fostered an attractive environment for private investment, paving the way for public-private partnerships essential to sustainable infrastructure delivery. His participation in the conference marks a defining moment for Africa's transport sector, as he will witness the presentation of the proposed visionary project—the continent's first and the world's second 4,000 km/h high-speed rail system, developed in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Transportation and De-Sadel Consortium. This ambitious initiative symbolizes the potential of visionary leadership, technical expertise, and international collaboration.

With a deep commitment to infrastructure as a means to unite people, open markets, and drive long-term prosperity, President Tinubu leads with purpose and integrity. His keynote address will set the stage for meaningful dialogue, bold action, and a renewed vision for the future of railway transportation across Africa.





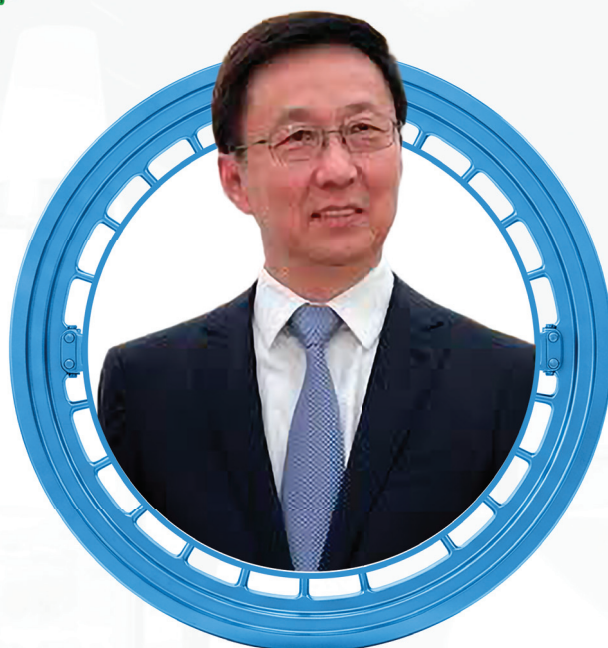
## Other Speakers



His Excellency, Vice President  
**Sen Kashim Shettima, GCON**

Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

Senator Kashim Shettima, GCON, Vice President of Nigeria, is a seasoned leader with a background in agricultural economics, banking, and public service. Formerly Governor of Borno State (2011–2019) and Senator for Borno Central (2019–2023), he drives economic reforms and sustainable development under President Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda. At the 2nd International Railway Conference & Expo 2025, to be held on September 15–16 at Ladi Kwali Hall, Abuja Continental Hotel, he will share insights on Nigeria's rail modernization.



His Excellency, Vice President  
**Han Zheng**

Vice President of the People's Republic of China

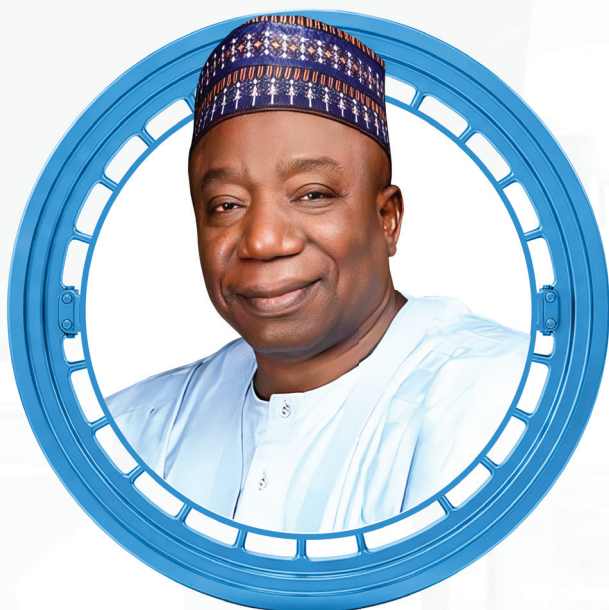
Vice President Han Zheng has been a leading figure in China's railway development, playing a crucial role in the growth of China's world-leading high-speed rail network. Under his leadership, China has developed the largest and fastest high-speed rail system globally, covering over 4,000 kilometers and setting a benchmark for modern rail infrastructure worldwide.

Vice President Han has also been a strong advocate for China's Belt and Road Initiative, promoting international cooperation in rail development. His leadership has been instrumental in facilitating China-Nigeria collaboration, supporting the modernization of Nigeria's railway network, including the Lagos-Ibadan and Abuja-Kaduna standard-gauge lines.

At the 2nd International Railway Conference & Expo 2025, Vice President Han will share valuable insights from China's high-speed rail success and highlight future opportunities for cooperation in global rail infrastructure development.



## Other Speakers



**Sen. Adamu Aliero**

Chairman, Senate Committee on Land Transport.

Muhammad Adamu Aliero (born 1 January 1957) is a Nigerian politician who has been the senator representing Kebbi Central senatorial district since 2015. He is also the Chairman Senate Committee on Land Transport.

He previously served in that position from 2007 to 2008. Aliero served as the governor of Kebbi State from 1999 to 2007. He is a member of the People's Democratic Party (PDP).

Aliero was appointed minister of the Federal Capital Territory by President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua in December 2008. He left office in March 2010 when Acting President Goodluck Jonathan dissolved his cabinet.



**Hon. Blessing Onuh**

Chairperson, House Committee on Land Transport

Hon. Blessing Onuh is a Nigerian Politician from Benue State representing Otukpo/Ohimini Federal Constituency in the House of Representatives.

In 2015, she was appointed Special Assistant to the Minister of State for Education and was later appointed as Special Assistant to the Minister of Inter-Governmental, Local Government and Special Duties. She also served as Acting Chairman, Federal Capital Territory Committee.

In 2023, Onuh was reelected into 10th House of the Representatives and became the Chairperson of the House Committee on Land Transport.

Honourable Blessing On uh would be delivering paper on Legislative Support for Railway Development in Nigeria



## Other Speakers



**Senator Sa'id Ahmed Alkali, CFR**

Honorable Minister of Transportation,  
Nigeria



**Hon. Dr. Kayode Opeifa**

Managing Director, Nigeria Railway Corporation

Senator Sa'id Ahmed Alkali, a former Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and appointed Minister of Transportation in August 2023, is a key figure in Nigeria's rail rehabilitation and modernization. Under President Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda, he drives transformative rail initiatives. Since assuming office, he has advanced freight services along the Lagos-Ibadan railway corridor, commenced passenger services on the Port Harcourt-Aba railway corridor, and launched a retrofitted dual-fuel locomotive at Idu Train Station in Abuja, enhancing sustainability. His leadership has also secured progress on the Kano-Maradi rail project, boosting economic connectivity between Nigeria and its West African neighbor.

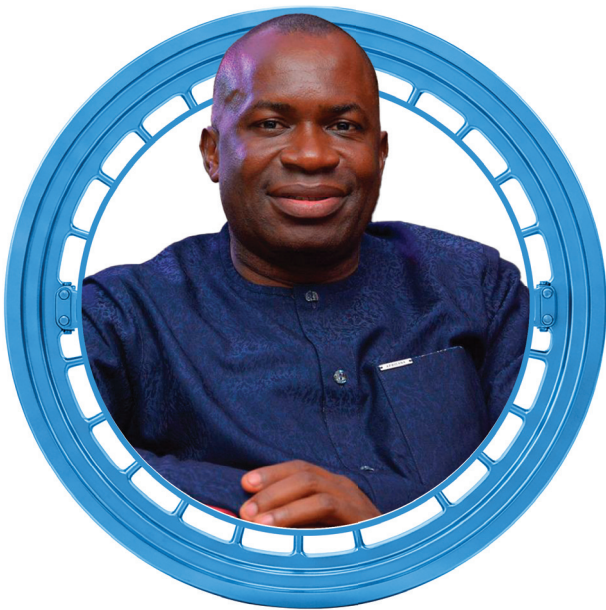
As the host and welcome speaker at the 2nd International Railway Conference & Expo, scheduled for 15th–16th September 2025 at Ladi Kwali Hall, Abuja Continental Hotel, Senator Alkali will highlight Nigeria's rail advancements and foster global collaboration. The conference is pivotal for him, reflecting his commitment to sustainable rail systems and Nigeria's role in revolutionizing African transport through innovation and partnerships with De-Sadel Consortium and other stakeholders.

Hon. Dr. Kayode Opeifa is a highly respected Nigerian professional and politician with extensive experience in transportation and railway development. With a background in transport and logistics, Dr. Opeifa has played a pivotal role in Nigeria's railway transformation.

As Managing Director of the Nigeria Railway Corporation (NRC), he has been instrumental in overseeing key projects, including the modernization of the Lagos-Ibadan and Warri-Itakpe standard-gauge lines. He has also contributed to the development of the Lagos-Kano and Kano-Maradi rail corridors. His work at the NRC has focused on driving efficiency, innovation, and expanding Nigeria's rail network to enhance regional connectivity and economic growth.

Dr. Opeifa's experience and leadership in the rail transport sector, alongside his role in the Federal Capital Territory and various strategic boards, make him a key speaker at the 2nd International Railway Conference & Expo 2025. His participation underscores Nigeria's commitment to advancing modern railway infrastructure, providing valuable insights into the nation's ongoing reforms and vision for a more interconnected Africa.





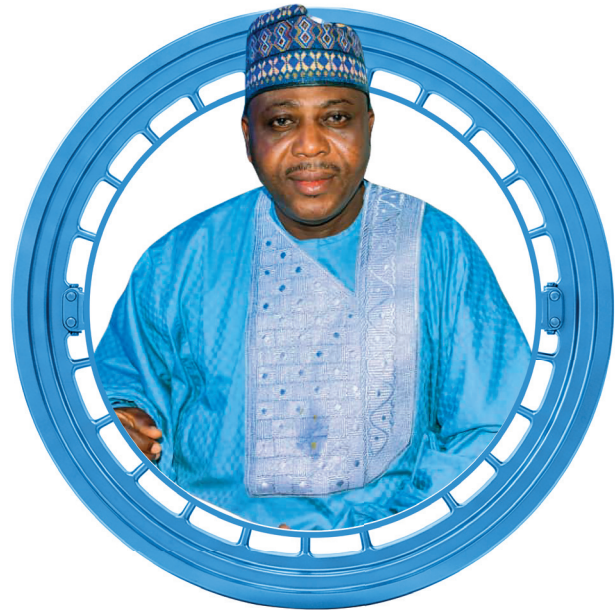
**Mr Samuel Uko**

**President CEO De-Sadel Consortium**

Samuel Uko, a distinguished leader in infrastructure development, is the major collaborator for the 2nd International Railway Conference & Expo 2025. Mr Uko has been on the fore front of Bullet Train development in Nigeria since 2015. So far, He has obtained an Outline Business Case Certificate (OBC) from Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC) and is currently developing the Full Business Case(FBC) for the Proposed Project.

Mr Uko being the CEO/MD of Dessadel is leading the Consortium to achieve this proposed project in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Transportation through Public Private Partnership (PPP). With His Expertise, and Innovation Mr Uko will be making a detailed presentation of the proposed 4,000km, 350km/ph High Speed Rail at the event. This proposed project promises to redefine regional connectivity, boost trade, foster sustainable economic growth and reduce travel time across the Continent and beyond.

His address will highlight the technical, economic, and social impacts of this ambitious high-speed rail system, showcasing the power of collaboration and innovation in shaping Africa's transportation future.



**Ibrahim Musa Omayie**

**Director Overseeing the Office of the Permanent Secretary Federal Ministry of Transportation**

Musa O. Ibrahim. Born on the 24th of November, 1965. Attended Sacred heart primary school, Ankp.1971 to 1977. Government secondary school, Garagboghoh. 1982.,Bauchi college of Arts and science, 1985. Bayero university, kano, 1988. University of Clermont Ferrand, France, 2006.

Started work with the Federal ministry of trade and tourism, 1990. Posted to federal ministry of solid minerals development, posted to National sports commission, worked as consultant intern with the United Nations Economic commission for Africa in AddisAbaba , Ethiopia in 2007.. Served as the head of Administration in the National Malaria control program 2008 to 2009. Head, international cooperation in federal ministry of health from 2009 to 2018. Headed the secretariat team of the federal ministry of health to the world Health Assembly in New York for six years. Fostered several collaborations between Nigeria and many countries in the health sector. One of such collaborations led to the establishment of Jabi federal medical center by the Chinese, and the free supply of certain class of drugs such as Atequick for treatment of malaria by the Chinese government. Collaboration between Nigeria and India in the area of health was highest in my time, as our efforts led to the free supply of covid 19 vaccines by the Indian Government to Nigeria health sector at the peak of the covid challenge. Became the Director, Road transport and mass transit Administration department in August. 2022

Successfully settled several inter union differences between some stake holders in the transport sector. Improving on the inter state road transport scheme among the west African countries by harmonizing smooth operations in the Lakaji corridor. Became the DOOPS on the 8th February. 2025. He is a development expert, and has effectively used his development initiatives to bring positive changes to any office he ever finds himself.



# **SPONSORSHIP BREAKDOWN:**

## **GOLD SPONSOR** **\$35,000 / 25 MILLION NAIRA** **AND ABOVE**

- Logo on event materials, including registration and session signage
- Complimentary attendance (10 delegates)
- VIP access to certain sessions and networking events
- High-visibility booth location
- Half-page ad in the conference hardcopy program
- Pre-event social media mention
- 5 minutes opportunity for keynote or featured speech



# **SPONSORSHIP BREAKDOWN:**

## **PLATINUM SPONSOR**

**\$65,000 AND ABOVE / 50 MILLION  
NAIRA AND ABOVE**

- Exclusive branding rights at the event
- Complimentary attendance (15 delegates)
- Logo on main stage and prominent signage
- VIP access to speakers, panels, and other high-level attendees
- Pre-event promotional opportunities (e.g., press releases, digital campaigns)
- Premium booth location
- Full-page ad in the conference hardcopy program
- 10 minutes opportunity for keynote or featured speech



## **SPONSORSHIP BREAKDOWN:**

### **SILVER SPONSOR**

**\$16,000 / 10 MILLION NAIRA AND BELOW**

- Logo on secondary event materials
- Complimentary attendance (5 delegates)
- Regular booth space
- Quarter-page ad in the conference program
- Mention in pre-event marketing materials



# SPONSORSHIP BREAKDOWN:

## Corporate Attendance Fees: 500,000 Naira

- Logo Representation in Secondary Materials:
- Event promotional materials:
- Social media exposure:
- One Company Representative )

## Individual Registration Fees:

- |                           |   |                                |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| • Live Attendance:        | - | 100,000 Naira                  |
| • Virtual Attendance:     | - | 200,000 Naira                  |
| • International delegates | - | 500 dollars (virtual and live) |

## In-Kind Sponsorships:

We also welcome in-kind sponsorships. Companies can contribute goods or services in exchange for the following benefits:

- Media Sponsors: In exchange for extensive media coverage, receive logo placement, mentions in press releases, and branded content.
- Technology Sponsors: Companies providing technical equipment (e.g., AV equipment, virtual event platforms) will receive sponsorship visibility in the conference materials and sessions.



## Sponsorship Benefits:

- Extensive visibility via branding across digital, print, and physical touchpoints
- Prominent presence throughout the event, providing a platform for your brand to reach a high-level audience
- Networking opportunities with key stakeholders and government representatives
- Recognition in pre-event, during-event, and post-event marketing campaigns

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## For Sponsorship Opportunities & More Information: Exhibition

### Exhibition booth Costing

- Prime location booth – USD 2,000.00 or NGN 3M
- Other Locations – USD 1,000.00 or NGN 1.5M

**For inquiries or to discuss sponsorship details,  
please contact us:**

**Phone:** +234 903 959 8366 +234 703 912 1732

**Email:** [support@internationalrailwaysconference.ng](mailto:support@internationalrailwaysconference.ng)



# FEATURING



Workshops



Technical Presentations



Panel discussion



Exhibition



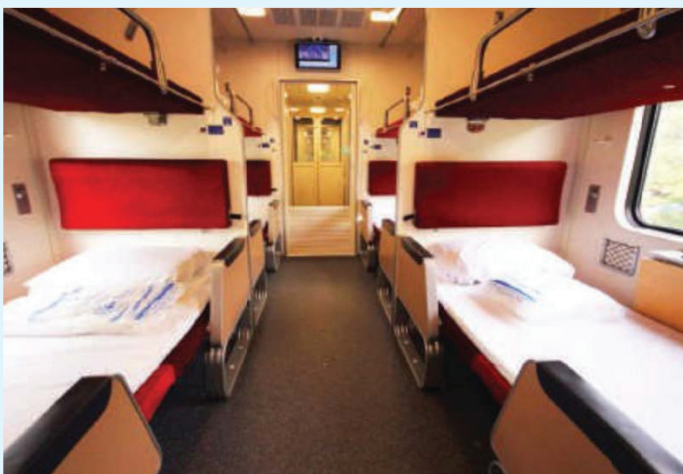
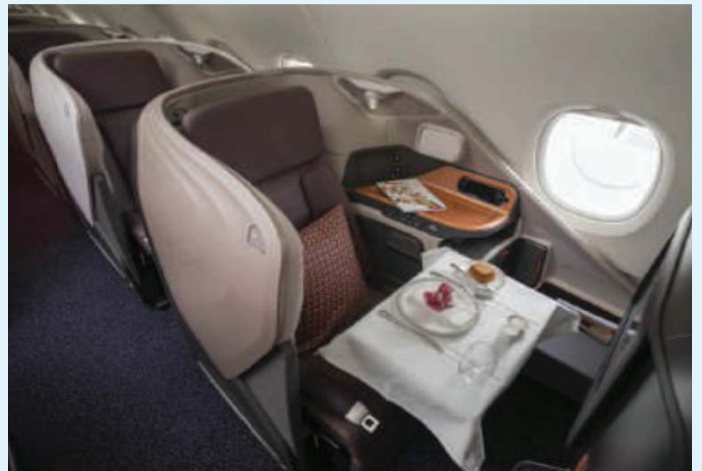
Networking



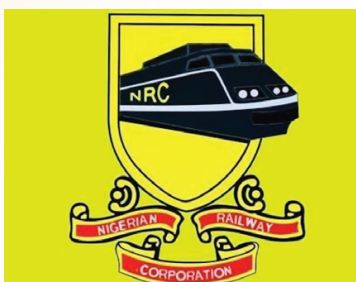
The Big Unveil



# TRAIN INTERIOR







**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF  
TRANSPORTATION, NIGERIA**





# PROPOSED BULLET TRAIN (HIGH SPEED RAIL) PROJECT



Host:

**Federal Ministry of Transportation**

Bukar Dipcharima House, Central Business  
District, Abuja - FCT.

Major Partner: **De-Sadel Consortium**

**Abuja Office:**

De-Sadel House, No. 14, Abubakar Koko  
Crescent, Off Maitama Sule Street, Asokoro, Abuja - Nigeria.

**Dubai Office:**

Level 22 Boulevard Plaza Tower 2,  
Downtown, P.O. Box 413711, Dubai, U.A.E.

**South Africa Office:**

Boundary Place, 18 Rivonia Road, Illovo,  
Sandton South Africa.

**For sponsorship details contact**

**Email address:** [support@internationalrailwaysconference.ng](mailto:support@internationalrailwaysconference.ng)

**Contact number:** +234 903 959 8366 +234 703 912 1732

**Website:** [www.internationalrailwaysconference.ng](http://www.internationalrailwaysconference.ng)