





PRESS RELEASE

26 January 2017

# EURASIA TUNNEL STARTS UNINTERRUPTED SERVICE ON 24/7 BASIS

# Eurasia Tunnel which reduces the intercontinental journey to 5 minutes between Kumkapı and Koşuyolu - where the vehicle traffic is at Istanbul's maximum - will be starting to work on 24/7 basis as of 07:00 on 31 January 2017.

The Eurasia Tunnel which connects the Asian and European continents through a two-story road tunnel that passes underneath the seabed for the first time was inaugurated on 20 December 2016 with a ceremony participated by the President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and the Prime Minister Binali Yıldırım. The Eurasia Tunnel was scheduled to be open for use between 07:00 and 21:00 hrs. until 30 January due to the traffic systems integration works. Following the completion of the tunnel works, the tunnel will begin to service on 24/7 basis starting from 07:00 on 31 January 2017.

## The shortcut between two continents

The distance between D100 Highway on Asian side and Kennedy Street on European side – the two areas with Istanbul's heaviest traffic – has become far shorter with the Eurasia Tunnel connecting the two main arteries. Those using the tunnel complete their intercontinental journey within only 5 minutes also thanks to the improvement of the connection roads. With the Eurasia Tunnel, which also shortens the duration of transportation throughout Istanbul, all Istanbulites benefit the time saving.

### Popularity rises each day

The Eurasia Tunnel draws intense interest from the drivers since the first day of its opening to service. Owing to its technological features, Eurasia Tunnel was on the forefront as a fast, comfortable and safe transportation alternative during the unfavorable weather conditions due to heavy snowfall in the first week of January in Istanbul.

### About Avrasya Tüneli İşletme İnşaat ve Yatırım A.Ş. (ATAŞ) (www.avrasyatuneli.com)

Avrasya Tüneli İşletme İnşaat ve Yatırım A.Ş. (ATAŞ) was founded in 2009 in order to build the Istanbul Strait Tube Crossing Project by Yapı Merkezi of Turkey and SK E&C of South Korea. Yapı Merkezi is among the leading construction companies of Turkey and the world implementing universally leading projects based on its 50 years of experience and knowledge in largescale contracting works. SK E&C is the construction and engineering branch of SK Group, the third largest Business group of South Korea. Yapı Merkezi and SK E&C are global companies which implement very successful infrastructure and transportation projects in diverseregions of theworld.

Dilay Ok ATAŞ Corporate Communication Manager 0216 474 05 20 / <u>dilay.ok@avrasyatuneli.com</u> Esat Pala Zarakol İletişim 0212 217 29 99 / <u>esat@zarakol.com.tr</u>