

## **ACS Group awarded the design and construction of the new Firth of Forth bridge in Edinburgh (Scotland) for €1.116 billion**

**ACS and Hochtief have together won their first large contract since ACS increased its stake in the German construction company, after the Spanish group launched a takeover bid.**

**The US company, American Bridge, and the Scottish firm, Morrison Constructions, are also part of the international consortium awarded the Forth Replacement Crossing project.**

**Madrid, 22 March 2011.** ACS, through its company Dragados, has been selected by Transport Scotland (TS) as the successful bidder for the contract to carry out the design and construction of the Forth Replacement Crossing project in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Dragados worked on this bid with Hochtief, the German company in which ACS also holds a stake, this being the first large contract which they have been awarded since ACS increased its holding in the German firm after the Spanish group launched a takeover bid at the end of last year. Together with Dragados and Hochtief, the US company, American Bridge, and the Scottish firm, Morrison Constructions, also form part of the international consortium awarded the aforementioned project.

The budget for the project to be executed is approximately €1.116 billion. ACS and Hochtief and their international consortium overcame the other group bidding for the contract, made up of the companies BAM Nuttal, Balfour Beatty, MT Hojgaard and Morgan Est.

The Forth Replacement Crossing is one of the largest infrastructure projects in Europe and is required to reinforce a vital connection in the United Kingdom's road network.

The new cable-stayed bridge will run parallel to the two existing emblematic bridges, one built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (the metal railway bridge) and the other in the 20<sup>th</sup> century (the suspension bridge for road). The image of the three parallel bridges crossing the firth will offer a landscape unique in the world, showing leading edge technology for bridges from the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The new connection, as well as relieving the present traffic congestion, will enable the necessary repairs to the current bridge to be undertaken in a comprehensive form.

The new bridge, 2.7 km long and 40 m wide, with three lanes in each direction, will have a main cable-stayed section of 2,100 m and two approach viaducts, one to the south and the other to the north, which complete its total length.

The project scope includes the design, construction and finishing for the new connection, comprising the connecting road to the south, the new bridge over the Firth of Forth, the connecting road to the north, the new bridge's electromechanical installations and the establishment of an intelligent transport system on the new road network.