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Contents

German technology paves the way for new Doha Metro	1
Editorial	3
Qatar's financial sector on the rise	4
Deutsche Bank reinforced by Qatari investment	5
Tourism remains significant economic driver for Qatar	6
Long distance rail soon to connect Qatar to neighbouring GCC countries	8
Qatar's Expressway Programme to enter next phase soon	11
News in brief	13
Qatar announces upcoming abolition of Kafala system	14
Imprint	15
Job Opportunities	16
Exhibitions	16
Tenders	16

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German technology paves the way for new Doha Metro



Gerhard Schröder, Former German Chancellor and Honorary Chairman of NUMOV, Martin Herrenknecht, Chairman of the Board of Herrenknecht AG and Deputy Chairman of the Board of NUMOV and Qatar's Minister of Transport, H.E. Jassim Seif Ahmed Al Sulaiti at the Herrenknecht plant in Schwanau

H. E. Jassim Seif Ahmed Al Sulaiti, Qatar's Minister of Transport made visit to Schwanau several weeks ago. There he met up with Martin Herrenknecht, founder and Chairman of the Board of Herrenknecht as well as Deputy Chairman of NUMOV, and with Gerhard Schröder, Former Chancellor and Honorary Chairman of NUMOV. Herrenknecht, the German company with which Qatar's Minister of Transport signed an agreement, produces a tunnel boring machine named the Earth Pressure Balance Shield. Using sensors to determine the exact amount of pressure needed to balance the rate of soil removal with the speed of the machine, it is designed for use in soft soil, such as Doha's, preventing the ground from collapsing. Tunnel boring work for

the metro of Qatar's capital city, Doha, will start in the third quarter of this year, as the tunnel boring machines for the metro rail project are now being manufactured. The concept is to build the tunnels as quickly as possible without disrupting traffic above. Qatar is getting ready for the FIFA World Cup 2022 and is investing heavily in infrastructure. For the metro project, the government will award approximately USD 32bn worth of contracts, although that figure could climb as agreements are signed to construct additional metro lines and a high-speed rail network as well as to purchase locomotives and passenger vehicles. Consisting of 4 lines, the metro network will cover the Greater Doha area and will include connections to town centres and vital commercial and