

## Metro Construction Projects to Be Outsourced

By The Moscow Times

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New construction projects on the Moscow metro will be carried out jointly by Azeri and Belarussian companies, a news report said Thursday.

Andrei Bochkarev, head of Moscow's construction department, said in an interview with Forbes that Mosinzhproyekt is creating a joint enterprize with Minskmetrostroi and Evrastroi for the procurement of equipment and the construction of facilities.

Mosinzhproyekt will control 49 percent of both companies, while the remaining 2 percent will belong to the Bank of Moscow, Vedomosti reported.

"We have mobilized metro-builders from around the CIS and have created joint enterprizes with them," Moscow Deputy Mayor Marat Khusnulin, who overseas metro construction, said.

The city of Moscow earlier pushed for ambitious plans to increase the length of the metro

lines by 150 percent by 2021. The total investment will amount to 1 trillion rubles (\$30 billion).

Generally reliable and safe, the Moscow metro has suffered some mishaps over the last week.

On June 5 an electrical fire forced the evacuation of 4,500 passengers on the Red Line, while on June 11 a power outage stranded 900 passengers on a train for over an hour on the Gray Line.

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