In September 2012, SGS was awarded a contract to provide safety audit and safety management and supervision services for the construction of Mumbai’s first metro rail project by Mumbai Metro One Pvt. Ltd. (MMOPL).

In September 2012, SGS agreed to provide MMOPL on-site safety management and supervision services for the VAG corridor project construction of a metro rail line linking Versova, Andheri and Ghatkopar to include:

- 11.4 km long double line elevated standard gauge metro rail along the VAG corridor
- 12 elevated passenger station platforms
- 1 maintenance depot

Work on the VAG corridor project began in 2008 and is expected to run through December 2013.

SGS services which began in February 2013 were scheduled to last for five months, and are expected to be completed next month. The development project is owned and operated by Vietnam Japan Gas Co., Ltd. (VJG).

**MMOPL**

Mumbai Metro One Pvt. Ltd. (MMOPL) is a joint venture made up of Reliance Infrastructure, Veolia Transport and the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority. Based in Mumbai, India, MMOPL operates the Mumbai Metro, a rapid transit system currently undergoing extensive construction.

**PROTECTING WORKERS & ASSETS IN MUMBAI**

On September 11, 2012 a five-member SGS safety team led by top officers of SGS health, safety and environment (HSE) services carried out a one-time comprehensive safety audit of the entire project. The SGS inspection team then presented key audit findings and submitted an interim report to MMOPL senior project management in a close-out meeting on September 12. MMOPL immediately implemented major recommendations outlined in the initial SGS safety audit.

Impressed by the SGS expeditious work ethic and the quality of SGS audit observations, MMOPL project managers solicited SGS safety engineers to continuously monitor project safety on a full-time basis. On September 17, a dedicated full-time team of ten SGS safety engineers was deployed and, after consultation with MMOPL, subsequently increased to fourteen dispersed along the VAG corridor passenger station platforms and maintenance depot.

This team of SGS safety engineers based at the MMOPL project site in Mumbai assists project management in implementing and monitoring a safety management system in order to effectively manage safety aspects and actively prevent incidents or accidents. The SGS safety team works with MMOPL site management and project contractors in placing control measures to eliminate potential hazards at the different work sites. In doing so, SGS provides MMOPL the opportunity to effectively manage and fulfill safety obligations during the project. In addition, SGS submits site safety inspection reports to MMOPL on a daily basis and protects workers from on-site injuries and assets from on-site damages through SGS safety management and supervision services.
The SGS safety team has dramatically improved on-site conditions by:

- facilitating establishment of the Project Safety Committee made up of MMOPL and MMRDA authorities
- ensuring implementation of permit-to-work system for high-risk areas such as girder launching, roof work, etc.
- training workmen and issuing identity cards and height passes to those working at height
- providing regular tool box and safety information, raising awareness of various safety practices
- insisting on preparation of method statements and conducting risk assessment for critical high-risk activities and reviewing them for their appropriateness
- covering and fencing open edges of slabs, pits and lift shafts to prevent falls
- securing work areas, material storage and equipment such as scissor lifts and scaffolds close to roads, installing safety screen nets and fire blankets to prevent objects or welding spatter from falling into traffic areas and insisting on deployment of traffic marshals to guide drivers during the movement of material
- compacting ground prior to the installation of heavy capacity cranes
- examining and testing lifting equipment including mobile cranes, tower cranes, hydras and hoists
- ensuring that electrical installations including electrical rooms, distribution boards and cables remain inaccessible to unauthorised persons and installing ground fault circuit interrupters
- providing safe working platforms with protective railing and safe access areas and following proper safety standards requiring protective gear such as helmets, safety belts and safety shoes as a minimum requirement

**SGS HSE CREDENTIALS**

Accidents could result in disastrous consequences for construction employees, innocent bystanders, the local environment, financial investors and responsible companies. SGS health, safety and environment management services coordinate and monitor on-site situations to ensure the health and safety of workers and determine company compliance with international HSE construction requirements.

Offering extensive experience, unrivaled resources, and ultimate expertise, SGS is a leading supplier of health, safety and environment management services.

With a unique global reach, SGS is able to dispatch qualified and experienced safety coordinators to construction sites and factories, wherever operations are based.

SGS is pleased to once again serve this distinguished partner in this important project affecting the lives of commuters in Mumbai every day.

**CONTACT**

INDUSTRIAL.GLOBAL@SGS.COM

WWW.SGS.COM/CONSTRUCTION