NEWS RELEASE August 3, 2015 MEDIA INQUIRIES: Anna Humphrey | (703) 875-4357

USTDA PROMOTES MODERNIZATION OF RAIL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN BRAZIL

BRASILIA, Brazil – Today, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency awarded a grant to the Associação Nacional dos Transportadores de Passageiros sobre Trilhos (National Association of Passenger Rail, or ANPTrilhos). The grant will provide technical assistance to develop a roadmap and implementation plan for public and private passenger rail operators to integrate real-time video monitoring technologies into Brazil's passenger rail systems.

"We are pleased to support our colleagues from ANPTrilhos as they plan future investments in upgrading their rail infrastructure, recognizing the tremendous potential that the sector holds for Brazil both in terms of connectivity and economic growth," said USTDA Regional Director Nathan Younge.

"We're proud to sponsor project development efforts that introduce U.S. rail industry technologies and solutions providers to Brazil's dynamic growth in the sector."

The Deputy Chief of Mission to Brazil, Andrew Bowen, and ANPTrilhos Foreign Affairs Advisor, Fernanda Pinheiro, witnessed the signing of the grant at the U.S. Embassy in Brasilia by USTDA Regional Director Younge and ANPTrilhos Superintendent Roberta Marchesi.

The technical assistance will identify technologies – and define standards and protocols – for the effective deployment of real-time video monitoring solutions. In addition, this assistance will develop a plan for the acquisition and implementation of core and complementary systems to increase security and overall operational efficiency for the control and management of various passenger rail trains throughout Brazil.

The opportunity to conduct the USTDA-funded technical assistance will be competed on the Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) website. A link to the FBO announcement will be posted to USTDA's website at www.ustda.gov. Interested U.S. firms should submit proposals according to the instructions in the FBO announcement.

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The U.S. Trade and Development Agency helps companies create U.S. jobs through the export of U.S. goods and services for priority development projects in emerging economies. USTDA links U.S. businesses to export opportunities by funding project planning activities, pilot projects, and reverse trade missions while creating sustainable infrastructure and economic growth in partner countries.