

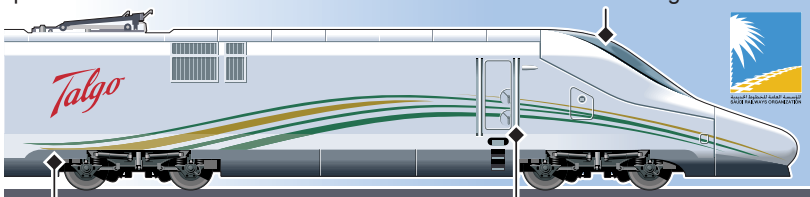
Saudi Arabia's Haramain high-speed railway

The Haramain Express, Saudi Arabia's first high-speed train, will link Medina and Mecca in less than two-and-a-half hours and cut pollution and congestion on the road between the two Muslim holy cities

HARAMAIN HST: Total of 35 trains built by Spain, adapted for desert climate

Air conditioning: Works on auxiliary power if overhead electrification fails

Cab window: Polyurethane sheets reduce wear from blowing sand



Wheels: Blowers positioned in close proximity to clear sand from track

Dust ingress: Reinforced door seals, military-grade air filters

Rolling stock: Talgo 350 SRO

Maximum speed: 300km/h

Length of train: 215m (13 cars)

Passenger capacity: 417 seats

Thermal resistance: Up to 50°C

Track modifications: Construction of retaining walls and ditches along line and use of slab track instead of ballast in exposed sections to prevent encroachment of desert sand

