



Type what you want to search

Search

11/12/2011



## Art on the tracks: Vale's passenger trains showcase the world of OSGEMEOS

The entire inventive world of twin brothers Gustavo and Otávio Pandolfo, known worldwide as OSGEMEOS (literally meaning “the twins” in Portuguese), will soon pass through 51 communities every day on board the passenger trains of the Vitória-Minas Railroad (EFVM). As of next week, the trains will carry a mobile version of Fermata, a unique exhibition of the duo’s work that is running at the Vale Museum in Espírito Santo until February 2012.

Designed by OSGEMEOS, the WholeTrain Project will take the brothers’ art to the communities located along Vale’s railroad, which rarely have the opportunity to see art exhibitions. The project will also benefit EFVM passengers every day. Accordingly, seven train cars that depart every day from Cariacica (Espírito Santo) and Belo Horizonte (Minas Gerais) have been transformed by the artists into a major open-air exhibition. The unique artistic installations on Vale’s passenger trains focus on the twins’ graffiti works, including portrayals of everything from abstract images to everyday situations.

In all, the artists have graffitied five passenger cars, a restaurant car and a generator car. (The latter is coupled to the train that travels along the Itabira branch line and generates the power that supplies the air conditioning system in the executive-class cars.) The plan is for the graffitied train cars to circulate among the other cars in the fleet for a period of six months.

The initiative to take the WholeTrain Project to EFVM is part of the Vale Foundation’s strategy to celebrate and strengthen regional Cultural identity by preserving the memories and heritage of the places where Vale operates. In this way, the Foundation contributes to heritage education, gives children and young people access to facilities and processes to enjoy and produce culture and art, and helps build a positive legacy in the regions where Vale is present.

The train cars were graffitied over a five-day period at Vale’s passenger train maintenance workshop in Cariacica (Espírito Santo). The work involved leading international graffiti artists invited by OSGEMEOS, such as Coyo, Toes, ISE, Mind (from Italy), Finok, Water and Diet – the latter two from Lithuania. As part of the mobile Fermata exhibition, there are plans to extend the WholeTrain Project to the Carajás Railroad (EFC) in 2012. EFC is a Vale railroad that connects the city of São Luís, Maranhão to Parauapebas in southeast Pará, covering 892 km and crossing 25 municipalities in the two states.

### The WholeTrain project

WholeTrain was initiated in São Paulo in 2002, when two entire trains were graffitied, attracting considerable interest both in Brazil and abroad. As a result, the project was expanded and graffiti art was produced in other cities in partnership with Brazilian train and subway companies (CPTM in São Paulo, Trensurb in Port Alegre, Supervia in Rio de Janeiro, CBTU in João Pessoa and Natal, and Metrorec and CBTU in Recife). The project has also visited the cities of Port Alegre, Recife, Rio de Janeiro, João Pessoa and Natal.

### EFVM passenger train service

Operated by Vale, the Vitória-Minas Railroad (EFVM) links the states of Espírito Santo and Minas Gerais, and runs the only long-distance daily passenger train in the country. As they travel, passengers enjoy beautiful landscapes, history, modernity and comfort. Approximately 3,000 people use Vale's passenger trains every day, and on public holidays this figure rises to around 4,500. Every year, approximately one million passengers use the train service, which, among other things, promotes tourism in the Doce River Valley and helps to integrate and develop the communities along the route of the railroad.

Every day at 7 am, one train leaves Espírito Santo for Minas Gerais, while another leaves Belo Horizonte (the capital of Minas Gerais) at 7:30 am. The whole 664 km journey lasts approximately 13 hours, and can be taken in either "economy" or "executive" cars – the latter equipped with air conditioning.

For passengers' convenience, each train has a snack bar and restaurant, with special tables and chairs to ensure passengers enjoy their meals in comfort. There is also exclusive seating for people with disabilities. In all parts of the trains, passengers can call upon the onboard staff for assistance. You can buy tickets at train stations, at authorized points of sale, or on the internet, on the passenger train service's website ([www.vale.com/tremdepassageiros](http://www.vale.com/tremdepassageiros)). On this website, you can buy tickets with Visa, Mastercard or Diners credit cards.

## Freight

Considered the most productive railroad in Brazil and one of the most advanced in the world, thanks to investment in human resources and modern technologies, EFVM celebrated its 107th anniversary in 2011. Extending across a total network of 905 km, every day the railroad transports at least 60 types of products, including iron ore, steel, soy, coal and limestone, and accounts for 40% of the country's entire rail freight.

Over the years, EFVM's operations have been modernized to improve their safety, efficiency, capacity and productivity. The railroad is also run in an environmentally friendly way. For example, at the end of 2008, Vale began tests as part of the Biofuel Train project, an unprecedented initiative to use a blend of natural gas and diesel in its locomotives. The project will permit reductions in CO2 emissions from burning fuels.

It is estimated that, by using natural gas to power the locomotives that operate on its railroads, Vale will cut its CO2 equivalent emissions by 73,000 metric tons per year. This volume corresponds to the amount of CO2 sequestered by reforesting more than 155 hectares of native forest, and it is also equivalent to the emissions of a non-industrial town of approximately 9,000 inhabitants. In January 2007, Vale complied with Federal Law 11,907/05 well in advance of the mandatory deadline by using B2 (a blend of 2% biodiesel and 98% regular diesel). In July 2008, the company replaced B2 with B3 (3% biodiesel and 97% regular diesel).

Another of EFVM's social and environmental investments is the "Green Train" project, which has involved replacing native timber with other materials when making railroad crossties. More than two million of EFVM's crossties are now made of steel. This measure means that approximately 500,000 trees no longer have to be felled every year. On one stretch of the railroad, 500 fiberglass, plastic and rubber crossties have been laid, made from recycled tires and discarded drink, shampoo and cleaning product bottles.

## EFVM's history

The history of the Vitória-Minas Railroad began in 1903, when the first tracks of the Vitória-Minas Railroad Company (CEFVM) were laid. One year later, on May 13, the first stretch of the railroad was inaugurated, connecting the cities of Vitória and Natividade. In 1914, stations were opened in Mariana and Diamantina, both in Minas Gerais. The railroad reached Belo Horizonte in 1994.

On June 1, 1942, Brazil's president, Getúlio Vargas, signed a decree to create the mining company we now know as Vale, which incorporated a number of companies and the Vitória-Minas Railroad.

In 1970, the world's largest metric-gauge train entered service on EFVM, consisting of 150 train cars, extending for 1,550 m, and driven by 3,900-HP diesel electric locomotives. (1 HP is equivalent to approximately 746 watts.)

In 2002, a 320-car train extending for nearly three kilometers came into operation. One year later, Vale achieved a new annual freight transportation record on EFVM: 119.7 million metric tons.

### More information

---



#### Mônica Ferreira

monica.ferreira@vale.com

Rio de Janeiro

+55 (21) 3845-3636

#### Fatima Cristina

fatima.cristina@vale.com

Rio de Janeiro

+55 (21) 3485-3621

---