

Published: Friday, September 2, 2011 15:01 (GMT-0400)

Highways to see record investment - Calderón – Mexico

Mexico has built, enlarged and improved 16,500km of highways in less than five years, President Felipe Calderón said at a conference to present the government's fifth annual progress report.

Some 78.9bn pesos (US\$6.39bn) will be invested in highway infrastructure during 2011 from a combination of private and public funds, according to the report.

Private investment in highway infrastructure has risen by 63.3% between 2010 and 1H11 and overall spending from January 2007 to June 2011 was 228bn pesos.

The majority of the investment has gone towards the construction and improvement of 11,000km of rural highways.

Large-scale projects include construction of the Arco Norte highway that connects Puebla, Tlaxcala, Hidalgo and Mexico states. At a cost of 7bn pesos, the four-lane, 224km highway was completed in May this year.

"The current administration has invested more in Mexican infrastructure than ever recorded," Calderón said.

*By Rebecca Conan
Business News Americas*