

Vinci Partners Aim to Double Infrastructure Investment in 3 Yrs
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By David Biller

(Bloomberg) -- The asset manager's goal is to double investment in infrastructure to \$1.13b reals in next three years, Jose Guilherme Souza, Vinci Partners' head of infrastructure, told reporters in Rio Friday.

* Vinci last week signed deal to acquire its second power transmission company, he says

** Souza declined to cite co's name, citing pending regulatory approvals, but said value of acquisition was about 110m reals

* Vinci has about 175m reals more to deploy in transmission sector, and is raising \$100m-150m capital abroad to bid in June auction

* Vinci is focused on medium-sized transmission companies; Chinese competitors, by contrast, are seeking large assets, Souza says

* Electricity sector regulation is proven, business model is similar worldwide, so easier to attract investors, he says

* Railway sector regulation is "far behind"

* Airport regulation is "already at a very interesting level, so certainly the next auction will attract" long-term investors, he says

* Vinci very interested in water/sewage sector that has few private players, as well as "gigantic need" for investment and management, he says

** He expects development bank BNDES to resume studies on sewage cos. privatizations after elections, in early 2019

* NOTE: Vinci resumed investment in transmission last year with acquisition of company in Sergipe