

Media release

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Stadler unveils train for Glasgow Subway, one of the oldest underground networks in the world

Today at InnoTrans, the leading biennial international trade fair for transport technology, Stadler, in a consortium with Ansaldo STS and alongside Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, publicly revealed one of the new trains for the Glasgow Subway. This order for 17 vehicles sees the Swiss rail manufacturer rise to the challenge of building trains for unusually narrow track and tunnels gauges.

The £200 million contract awarded in 2016 by Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to Stadler and Ansaldo STS is for the supply of new rolling stock and control systems. It includes new signalling, telecoms, a control-centre, as well as depot modifications and new screen doors on platforms.

With a maximum speed of 58 km/h, the new trains will be the same length and size as existing rolling stock, but made up of four-car sets, as opposed to the current three-car sets. They will feature open gangways to maximise the space available, as well as dedicated areas for wheelchairs, making the trains more accessible for all.

Dating back to 1896, Glasgow Subway is the third oldest underground metropolitan network in the world, after London and Budapest. It operates solely within its original Victorian tunnels, and the track gauge of 1.22m and tunnel gauge of 3.4m diameter make it the world's smallest-size underground system. This means that the trains have to be especially constructed. The tunnels comprise twin running circles, each 10.5km in length and there are 15 stations on the network.

The new trains will be equipped for fully-automatic, unattended train operations (UTO), and it is the first time that Stadler is manufacturing trains for a driverless system.

Peter Jenelten, executive vice president for sales and marketing at Stadler, commented:

“Stadler prides itself on its versatility, creativity and ability to find solutions. The historic nature of the Glasgow network has certainly put our skills to the test, but we were thrilled to secure this contract a couple of years ago and look forward to the successful roll-out of this ground-breaking fleet.”

Gordon MacLennan, chief executive at Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, added:

“The delivery of new rolling stock and control system is a key part of our plan to modernise the Subway for generations to come. We are all aware of the proud rail history of the Subway as the third oldest in the world

and our plans for modernisation will ensure that the Subway continues to be an essential component in the transport network of the future.”

Pictures from the vehicle presentation will be provided from 12 o'clock here: <https://goo.gl/h3wu1G>

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About Stadler

International rail vehicle construction company, Stadler, is headquartered in Bussnang in Eastern Switzerland. Founded in 1942, it has a workforce of over 7,600 based in various production, service and engineering locations across Switzerland, Germany, Spain, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Belarus and the United States. Service locations are also being operated in countries including Algeria, Denmark, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the UK. Stadler provides a comprehensive range of products in the heavy and urban transport segments: high-speed trains, intercity trains, regional and commuter heavy rail trains, underground trains, tram trains and trams. Stadler also manufactures main-line locomotives, shunting locomotives and passenger carriages, including the most powerful diesel-electric locomotive in Europe. It is the world's leading manufacturer in the rack-and-pinion rail vehicle industry.

The best-selling FLIRT (Fast Light Intercity- and Regional Train) vehicle has already sold more than 1,600 units in a total of 18 countries. The KISS, an acronym of the German for Comfortable Innovative Speedy Suburban Train, is also very popular, with nearly 300 units sold in 11 countries. The most powerful diesel-electric locomotive in Europe is the EURO4000, which has sold 140 units in 7 countries. The Stadler Service division maintains vehicle fleets and comprises more than 680 vehicles, covering a combined annual distance of 120 million kilometres in 16 different countries.

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