

Media Release

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Sparks are flying: Stadler opens welding facility in Salt Lake City

Stadler is now producing aluminum train car bodies in the US. The company celebrated the opening, and operations start of its new welding facility in Salt Lake City on September 25th. The facility is part of the expansion of the current Stadler US factory, where passenger trains for the US market are produced. The 50,000-square-foot facility offers up to 20 new welding jobs for local talent and brings Stadler's domestic content up to 80%.

Bright sparks flew on September 25 as Stadler's brand-new welding facility in Salt Lake City opened, delivering the first locally welded aluminum car body in the company's North American history. This milestone not only marks an important step forward in passenger rail manufacturing but also brings high-skilled welding jobs to Salt Lake City.

"We set out to build more than just trains," said Martin Ritter, CEO of Stadler North America. "We're building economic opportunity, stronger supply chains, and a future where American-made trains are synonymous with world-class quality. Today, our welders are proof that it can be done."

Up to 20 new positions

The 50,000-square-foot (4,600 square meter) welding hall on Stadler's Salt Lake City campus creates up to 20 new positions for local welders and technicians by the end of 2026. During this ramp-up phase, Stadler's top welding experts from the company's competence center in Hungary are on-site in Salt Lake City to share best practices and ensure a seamless transfer of expertise.

For the first time, aluminum car bodies are now being welded on-site rather than shipped from Stadler welding facilities in Europe—slashing transit time as well as increasing the local manufacturing footprint and domestic content of Stadler's trains.

A Celebration to Remember

At the Grand Opening event on September 25th, Stadler invited local officials, community leaders, and team members for a presentation of the first locally welded train car. Salt Lake City Mayor Erin Mendenhall—on hand to commemorate the occasion—praised Stadler's investment in local talent and contribution to Utah's growing advanced manufacturing sector.

"This facility is a shining example of what can happen when global expertise meets local ambition," said Salt Lake City Mayor Erin Mendenhall. "With the opening of this new welding hall, train car bodies will be manufactured locally. That means jobs, innovation, and a more sustainable future."

Increased domestic content

With the new welding facility and car body production, Stadler is further strengthening its domestic content creation in the US, increasing it to around 80 percent. Of the remaining 20 percent, a large proportion of supplies come from Europe. Stadler is currently analyzing all supply chains with the aim of further reducing the proportion of foreign components.

Since 2016, the Buy America Act has required Stadler to demonstrate that at least 70 percent of its value creation is generated in the USA if US tax money is used for financing the project.

About Stadler

Stadler has been building trains for over 80 years. The provider of mobility solutions in rail vehicle construction, service and signalling technology has its headquarters in Bussnang in eastern Switzerland. Around 16,600 employees work at 8 production and 6 engineering locations as well as over 80 service locations, including over 600 employees in the US. The company is aware of its social responsibility for sustainable mobility and therefore stands for innovative, sustainable and durable quality products. The product range in the mainline and urban transport sector includes high-speed trains, intercity trains, regional and suburban trains, underground trains, tram-trains and trams. Stadler also manufactures mainline locomotives, shunting locomotives and passenger coaches. Stadler is the world's leading manufacturer of rack-and-pinion railway vehicles.

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