

**Media release**

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Berlin, 15 July 2025

## **The future on rails: Stadler delivers FLIRT Akku trains for ODEG in West Mecklenburg**

**Ostdeutsche Eisenbahn GmbH (ODEG) and Stadler are jointly presenting the next generation of climate-friendly mobility. A FLIRT Akku train was showcased during a special ceremonial journey from Schwerin to Parchim – a preview of the new ODEG fleet that will enter service in West Mecklenburg in December 2027.**

ODEG was awarded the contract for the "Westmecklenburg II" transport contract back in December 2024. The company has ordered 14 FLIRT Akku battery-powered multiple units from Stadler, which will operate emission-free on non-electrified lines. They are specifically planned for use on lines RB13 (Rehna – Schwerin – Parchim), RB14 (Hagenow Stadt – Ludwigslust – Parchim), RB15 (Waren (Müritz) – Inselstadt Malchow – Plau am See, seasonal) and RB19 (Parchim – Plau am See, seasonal).

The special trip did not mark the start of operations, but rather a symbolic kick-off for the coming change. A FLIRT Akku train on loan from the Schleswig-Holstein local transport association NAH.SH was used – the same type of vehicle that will also be used by ODEG.

The new FLIRT Akku trains offer:

- Local emission-free operation thanks to battery technology
- 98 seats, spacious multi-purpose areas and barrier-free design
- Wi-Fi and a modern passenger information system
- Operation under overhead lines with battery charging and purely battery-based travel on non-electrified sections
- Exterior design in the state colours of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania

The vehicles are currently being developed and built by Stadler. In future, they will be maintained at the expanded ODIG workshop in Parchim.

"Today's journey shows what is possible – and what will soon become reality," says Jure Mikolčić, CEO of Stadler Division Germany. "The FLIRT Akku represents a new generation of climate-friendly mobility, and we are delighted to be embarking on this journey together with ODEG."

"In West Mecklenburg, we are committed to modern, environmentally friendly mobility – quiet, comfortable and suitable for everyday use by our passengers. The FLIRT Akku vehicle concept offered by Stadler has convinced us and will help us to achieve this goal in the best possible way," says Stefan Neubert, Managing Director of ODEG.

The project is funded by the Federal Ministry of Transport (BMV) as part of the "Guideline for the Promotion of Alternative Drives in Rail Transport". Funding for this measure is also provided under the German Recovery and Resilience Plan (DARP) through the European Recovery and Resilience Facility (ARF) in the NextGenerationEU programme. The funding guideline is coordinated by NOW GmbH and implemented by Project Management Jülich (PtJ).

With the FLIRT Akku, Stadler is putting the future on rails – quietly, efficiently and sustainably.

## 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. More than 15,200 employees work at 8 production and 6 engineering locations as well as over 80 service locations, including over 5,600 employees in Switzerland.*

*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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## **About ODEG**

*The founding of ODEG in 2002 marked the beginning of one of the most successful stories in German railway history. As a subsidiary of BeNEX GmbH and NETINERA Move GmbH, ODEG has developed into the largest private railway company in eastern Germany. The regional railway operator runs a total of 17 lines on behalf of the federal states of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Brandenburg, Berlin, Saxony and Saxony-Anhalt. ODEG uses the infrastructure of Deutsche Bahn AG in return for payment. Its fleet of 86 multiple units currently includes 29 Desiro HC, 16 KISS, 7 Desiro ML, 6 Desiro Classic, 8 LINT 54, 14 Regio-Shuttle RS1 and 6 Stadler GTW trains. The vehicles are maintained by the wholly-owned subsidiary ODIG – Ostdeutsche Instandhaltungsgesellschaft mbH. For more information about the company, visit [odeg.de](http://odeg.de) and [odig.de](http://odig.de).*

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