

PRESS RELEASE

Budapest, 11 September 2009

MÁV-START Zrt. set the first Szolnok fabricated FLIRT into operation

Hungarian passenger transport operator MÁV-START Zrt. set the first FLIRT train into operation today, which was manufactured partly in the newly opened rail vehicle production plant of Stadler Rail Group in Szolnok. The partly Hungarian made FLIRT is the 50th train, which has started its commercial operation out of the altogether 60 electric multiple units ordered by the Hungarian State Railways. According to the delivery schedule, the last trains will be delivered by February 2010.

Stadler laid the foundation stone of its aluminium train carriage welding and painting factory in 2008 April. The construction and commissioning of the plant was accomplished in close to record time by the end of 2008, so the factory was able to join the production process of the MÁV FLIRTs. The Hungarian workforce was responsible for the welding, compiling and painting of 28 bodyshells of the ordered 4-part trains, which meant altogether seven complete trains. The plant, which is one of the most state-of-the-art aluminium welding sites in Europe, has already accomplished the production of all the bodyshells for the MÁV order, and forwarded the carriages to the facility of Stadler Bussnang AG, Switzerland, for final assembly.

Tamás Kozák, CEO of MÁV-START said: "In the suburban transport of Budapest more than 100,000 passengers use the public services every day. Therefore it is a priority for us to increase the quality of railway transport within the available financial possibilities, for which developments are inevitable. FLIRT trains have lived up to the expectations: according to the feedback received from the passengers, the travelling public like the comfortable and environment friendly alternative of travelling, which this type of train can provide. In addition, the fact that these trains are partly produced in Hungary, makes us look at the FLIRTs as our own child even more.

"We are always very proud of every product that is rolling out of our factories, but we are especially proud of this particular train. Only few believed that the plant would be able to join the production of MÁV FLIRTs, but thanks to the persistent and enthusiastic work of every single person who participated in this project, the factory was built up in record time. The fact

that Hungarian passengers are able to travel on partly Hungarian made trains is a fantastic result of an outstanding teamwork.” - said Jürg Gygax, Executive Vice President International of Stadler Rail Group.

The FLIRT trains are in service every day between Budapest-Székesfehérvár, Budapest-Pusztaszabolcs, Budapest-Győr, and from the beginning of September between Budapest-Hatvan. The trains are also available for the travelling public on the weekends between Budapest-Szob and Budapest-Eger. The trains are fully accessible and air-conditioned, they can provide a comfortable travelling for the ones with disabilities too due to the fully low-floor structure and the retracting platform. The trains are also equipped with a GPS based passenger information system.

In addition to the comfort features, the FLIRT has outstanding technical characteristics as well: the train is able to accelerate dynamically, enabling the FLIRT to easily compensate leeways, which can be utilised very efficiently in suburban transport. The state-of-the-art braking system, combined with regenerative brake, enables the train to stop within a short braking distance. In addition, it recuperates electricity to the overhead line, resulting in significant cost reduction. The maintenance and cleaning of FLIRTs is accomplished by Stadler, which results in a 94% availability of the trains in service.

The Stadler Rail Group, the system provider for customised solutions in rail vehicle manufacture, has locations in Switzerland (Altenrhein, Bussnang and Winterthur), in Germany (Berlin-Pankow and Velten), in Poland (Siedlce), in Hungary (Budapest, Pusztaszabolcs and Szolnok), as well as in Algeria (Algiers). More than 2,400 people are employed group-wide. The best-known vehicle families of the Stadler Rail Group are the GTW articulated railcar (489 trains sold), the RS1 Regio Shuttle (402 trains sold), the FLIRT (515 trains sold) and the DOSTO double-decker train (57 trains sold) in the complete train sector, and the Variobahn (264 vehicles sold) and the newly developed Tango (90 vehicles sold) in the streetcar sector. In addition, Stadler manufactures passenger coaches and diesel-electric locomotives, and is the leading manufacturer of rack railway vehicles worldwide.

For further details please contact:

MÁV-START Zrt.
Balogh-Fazekas Anita, szóvivő
Telefon: 06 30 823 44 24
fazekas.anita@mav-start.hu

Stadler Trains Magyarország Kft.
Kiss Csaba, kommunikációs vezető
Telefon: +36 1 266 0065; +36 30 511 0158
csaba.kiss@stadlerrail.hu