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Stadler FLIRT enters new market: First contract awarded in Lithuania

The success story of the FLIRT multiple unit continues: after more than 2,500 FLIRT trains have been sold worldwide, Stadler has now been awarded with the first FLIRT contract in Lithuania. Today, Lithuanian railway operator LTG Link and Stadler have signed a contract for delivery of fleet of state-of-the-art FLIRT vehicles. This is Stadler's first contract in Lithuania and a major sales success in the Baltic region. With the delivery of electric and battery-electric trains, Stadler contributes to Lithuania's path to sustainable mobility.

LTG LINK will acquire 15 FLIRT multiple units (mandatory scope) with plans to exercise optional scope and additionally procure up to 13 electric FLIRT Intercity multiple units, 15 battery-electric FLIRT multiple units with 100km range and 11 battery-electric FLIRT multiple units with 70 km range. In a first call-off, Stadler will deliver nine electric FLIRT for intercity operations and six battery-electric FLIRT to be operated on non-electrified railway lines. The company will also supply a technical support and spare parts for 10 years from the delivery of the last vehicle.

"Stadler has already sold over 2,500 FLIRT trains worldwide – it is a tried and tested, reliable and comfortable vehicle model based on a light-weight modular design, that is available in a number of drive variants, meets the expectations of the most demanding customers and is environmental friendly. I'm happy that our vehicles will soon carry passengers in Lithuania too. I'm certain that Lithuanians will love FLIRT trains and enjoy travelling on them", said Peter Spuhler, the Executive Chairmain of the Stadler Group.

"Every day, we strive for more and more people to switch to environmentally friendly railway transport. Today we can confidently say that the new trains will make a significant contribution to the realization of our sustainable mobility goals. They will bring a significant leap in the quality and experience of train travel for all passengers. The design works of trains adapted specifically for Lithuania will soon begin. Battery-powered trains adapted to harsh climate conditions and wide gauge railways will be produced for the first time in Europe. And together with the supplier that won the public procurement, we will ensure their efficient operation for many years," says Linas Baužys, the Head of the passenger transport company LTG Link.

A new level of comfort

Designing trains for LTG Link, Stadler's engineers have focused largely on travel comfort and state-of-the-art vehicle design. Comfy seats in passenger areas, a friendly interior design and a bistro will ensure a high comfort event during long-distance travels.

Fully electric Intercity model

The nine FLIRT Intercity electric multiple units are 93m five-car units. They will seat up to 200 passengers, including 16 passengers in the first class. Each vehicle will accommodate 14 to 30 bicycles, according to the season of the year and route-related requirements. A spacious baggage area and a toilet will also be provided. The trains will meet the high requirements of all types of passengers, both families with kids seeking to relax during their journey and business passengers who will be seated in a dedicated train area to ensure they have comfortable working conditions and may hold business talks. There will also be a bistro area on board the vehicle, where passengers can order a meal.

Sustainable on non-electrified lines

The six FLIRT battery electric multiple units with a length of over 65 m will consist of three passenger cars and a dedicated Power Pack car housing motive-power batteries. Each vehicle will seat up to 128 passengers and 6 to 30 bicycles according to the season of the year and route-related requirements. Vehicles will have a toilet and vending machines selling snacks to passengers. The vehicles will replace diesel trains that are now operated on non-electrified sections. They are designed to navigate the most challenging routes of the Lithuanian railway infrastructure without a power supply from the contact system, so they will run on non-electrified lines emission-free.

Both vehicle types will cater to the needs of persons with reduced mobility - entirely free of any stairs, they will allow for smooth movement aboard. They will have lifts to assist with the boarding of passengers on wheelchairs from the lowest platforms and adapted toilets. An optimum number of vehicle doors (5 doors in an EMU and 3 doors in a BEMU) will provide for an efficient passenger exchange while improving the acoustic comfort on trains.

With the contract awarded from LTG Link, Stadler continues the success story in the Baltic States. Already in 2012 and 2014, Stadler supplied 38 FLIRT multiple units to the Estonian operator Elron.

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, eastern Switzerland. It has a workforce of over 13,500 based in various production and engineering locations as well as more than 80 service locations. The company is conscious of its social responsibility for sustainable mobility and therefore stands for innovative, sustainable and durable quality products. The product range in the field of mainline railways and city transport includes high-speed trains, intercity trains, regional and suburban trains, metros, tramways and trams. Stadler also manufactures main-line locomotives, shunting locomotives and passenger carriages. It is the world's leading manufacturer in the rack-and-pinion rail vehicle industry.

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