

Media release

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Bussnang, 12 March 2025

Stadler delivers SMILE high-speed trains to WESTbahn

On 12 March 2025, Stadler and WESTbahn announced the signing of a contract for the delivery of three SMILE high-speed trains. Set to operate on the Vienna - Graz - Klagenfurt - Villach route from March 2026, these highly comfortable, tried-and-tested trains will significantly enhance the passenger experience. They will be built in Bussnang, Switzerland.

The SMILE will be the first high-speed train from Stadler in Austria and is able to reach speeds of up to 250 km/h. These three new trains set to run on the Vienna - Graz - Klagenfurt - Villach route represent the expansion of the WESTbahn network, demonstrating the important role that Stadler is playing to improve rail travel in the country.

The trains offer the following to enhance passenger comfort:

- Low-floor and barrier-free
- Light, airy, open design
- Air-conditioned pressure-resistant passenger compartments and driver' cab
- Accessible toilet in each carriage
- Step-free access
- Dedicated areas for bicycles
- Comfortable adjustable seats available in all classes
- Free WiFi
- USB ports and plug sockets at every seat

The order of 11-car high-speed train sees WESTbahn modernising its fleet and setting a new standard for sustainable rail travel. Able to travel at much higher speeds than previous trains operating in Austria, the SMILE trains are designed for cross-border rail routes.

Commissioning by WESTbahn as early as March

The three SMILE trains will be integrated into WESTbahn's regular passenger service from March 2026, less than two years after the contract is signed, and will expand the existing KISS double-decker service. Commissioning normally takes four to five years. "We are delighted to have an innovative and forward-looking partner in WESTbahn, and together, be able to deploy state-of-the-art high-speed trains within a very short space of time. The SMILE trains feature the most innovative technologies, high energy efficiency and maximum passenger comfort," says Christian Diewald, Managing Director of Stadler Austria.

Technical data of the new SMILE trains

Length	202 m
Number of trolleys/carriages	11
Maximum speed	250 km/h
Maximum acceleration	0.77 m/s ²
Track gauge	1,435 mm
Drive	Electric, multi-system vehicle (15 kV AC, 25 kV AC, 3 kV DC)
Low-floor access	For platform heights of 55 cm and 76
Air-sprung drive and bogies	
Redundant drive equipment with four traction converters for four motorised bogies	
TSI authorisation with network access for Switzerland, Germany, Italy and Austria	

About Stadler

Stadler has been building trains for over 80 years. The provider of mobility solutions in rail vehicle construction, service and signalling has its headquarters in Bussnang in eastern Switzerland. It has a workforce of around 15,000 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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