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The final design of the GYSEV FLIRT IC is ready – car body production will start soon in Szolnok

The design for the 11 new FLIRT intercity trains ordered by GYSEV Zrt. is ready, paving the way to the start of car body production later this autumn in Szolnok, Hungary. The first train is expected to enter passenger service in the last quarter of 2027. Signed in March last year, the contract is of great importance for rail transport, as the last intercity EMU were procured in Hungary exactly 30 years ago.

GYSEV Zrt. announced last year that it had ordered a fleet of 11 intercity EMUs from manufacturer Stadler. The final exterior and interior design of the vehicles has just been completed, highlighting the railway company's green and yellow color scheme. These energy-efficient trains will comply with the latest international standards and be able to reach speeds of 160 km/h. Trains featuring both first and second class will have a flexible seating arrangement, with more seats in winter and 18 bicycle holders in the summer.

Air-conditioned, low-floor passenger compartments, a modern passenger information and advertisement system, extra luggage racks, and a bistro area with vending machines will all enhance the passenger experience. We have not forgotten the technical needs of those who want to work on the go: Wi-Fi, charging sockets, USB-C ports per each seat and additional phone holders will be available.

The first trains are expected to arrive in the last quarter of 2027. The last units will be introduced into passenger service in the first quarter of 2028 on the Sopron-Budapest and Szombathely-Budapest routes. The five-part, double-current vehicles will be able to operate in Austria, as well as in Hungary.

FLIRT trains are already familiar to GYSEV passengers, as the railway company ordered a total of 20 FLIRT multiple units from Stadler between 2013 and 2018 in three separate purchases. *"The 11 new InterCity trains will differ in many ways from the regional EMUs purchased previously: the vehicles are optimized for longer journeys, thus perfectly meeting the 21st-century requirements expected in long-distance transport. Thanks to the experts at GYSEV and Stadler, passengers can look forward to an elegant and modern exterior and interior design,"* said Szilárd Kövesdi, CEO of GYSEV Zrt.

The final design was developed jointly by GYSEV, Stadler and the Innova Design Team. The main colour of the exterior design will be elegant silver, complemented by the well-known green and yellow colours of the GYSEV brand. Inside, the usual stylistic features of modern intercity vehicles, besides grey metal and glass elements, stylish brown shades, as well as the variations of oak wood are reminiscent.

"After a long time, our car body plant in Szolnok is once again producing trains for the Hungarian market. As part of the current order, a total of 55 FLIRT IC car bodies are being built in Szolnok for GYSEV, with production starting at this autumn. The handover of trains, will mean that there are 200 Stadler-built vehicles in Hungary. Our rolling stock is already the backbone of rail transport in our country, and one in two passengers travels on Stadler trains," commented Dr. Róbert Homolya, chairman of Stadler Trains Hungary.

The FLIRT is Stadler's most popular product and more than 2,750 FLIRTs have been sold in 21 countries since 2002. They are also very popular in Hungary: currently there are 20 vehicles operated by GYSEV and 123 vehicles operated by MAV. The factory in Szolnok has been involved in the production of almost 1,000 FLIRT trains, or 3,883 carriages, demonstrating this plant's contribution to the business's most successful product type.

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 16,500 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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