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TINA hits the tracks: Rostock's new tram enters passenger service for the first time

After intensive testing and technical approval, Rostock's new TINA tram is now in regular service for the first time. State Secretary Ines Jesse, Mayor Eva-Maria Kröger, RSAG board members Yvette Hartmann and Jan Bleis, and Stadler's Head of Sales Dr Ansgar Brockmeyer gave the starting signal at a festive event.

"The people of Rostock can look forward to state-of-the-art, barrier-free trams with environmentally friendly air conditioning, Wi-Fi and a spacious interior," explained RSAG board members Hartmann and Bleis. "It has been a long journey from the start in 2018 to today's launch, involving very intensive discussions in city politics, several project stages and an extensive test phase. Now Rostock is getting a new generation of trams that will shape the cityscape for many years to come and make public transport even more attractive."

Ines Jesse, State Secretary in the Ministry of Economics, Infrastructure, Tourism and Labour of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, conveyed the congratulations of the state government and emphasised: "With the commissioning of the new TINA, we are writing a new chapter in mobility for Rostock. Modern, safe and accessible trams create an attractive offer for local people and strengthen local transport in the long term. At the same time, this day shows how we are successfully implementing the Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania mobility offensive step by step.

The state government is supporting this forward-looking project with a total of 11.75 million euros. The fact that we were able to increase funding by a further 2.3 million euros for the 30th TINA is an important signal: we are consistently investing in reliable, efficient and future-proof public transport for the people of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania – in both urban and rural areas."

Mayor Eva-Maria Kröger was equally enthusiastic: "The new TINAs will make travelling by tram in Rostock even more attractive – modern vehicles, a high level of comfort and exemplary

accessibility are an important building block on the way to achieving the transport policy goal of a 20 per cent share of public transport. The steadily increasing passenger numbers show that we are on the right track. I would like to thank the state for its financial support and RSAG for its tremendous commitment to consistently continuing the positive development in public transport."

Innovative concept: TINA on Rostock's rails

TINA stands for "Totally Integrated Low-Floor Drive" and describes the passenger-friendly concept developed by Swiss manufacturer Stadler. Initially, one TINA tram will be used on Rostock's main lines 1 and 5, while two additional vehicles will be used for training driving personnel.

"The positive response from Rostock shows that modern mobility is not only technically convincing, but also emotionally inspiring," said Dr Ansgar Brockmeyer, Head of Sales at Stadler. "We would like to thank RSAG and the state government for their trust. The fact that we were able to implement the project on schedule confirms the success of our innovative vehicle concept."

30th TINA for Rostock: RSAG orders another tram vehicle from Stadler

RSAG has ordered another vehicle – the 30th TINA. "The TINA has made a very good impression during its numerous test runs and also on the people of Rostock. It is therefore all the more gratifying that we have been able to secure financing for another vehicle together with the state government," said Hartmann and Bleis.

The state government is increasing its funding by 2.3 million euros, bringing Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania's total contribution to the new trams to 11.75 million euros. The total investment for all 30 vehicles amounts to around 107 million euros. Three TINA trams are already in Rostock, with the rest to follow between January 2026 and mid-2027.

Comfortable, quiet, environmentally friendly

The new trams are 32 metres long and can accommodate 216 passengers, 75 of whom can be seated. The step-free interior allows barrier-free access and offers space for prams and bicycles in four multi-purpose areas. Large panoramic windows and high passage heights create an open feeling of space and ensure an unobstructed view. USB ports and free Wi-Fi (from 1 January 2026) provide additional comfort. Modern monitors keep passengers informed, while video surveillance and cashless ticket machines increase safety and user-friendliness.

Four specially developed bogies ensure smooth running and protect the rails and wheels. Driver assistance systems, including collision protection, increase operational safety.

Review: RSAG's largest investment

In December 2020, the Rostock City Council approved the largest investment in the history of RSAG. The city is providing a total of 30 million euros for the equity increase by 2029 to secure the financing of the new trams. Following a Europe-wide tender, Stadler was awarded the contract in

June 2022. The new TINA trams will gradually replace the non-renovated 6N1 vehicles from 1994 to 1996, which are being retired after 30 years of service.

RSAG operates six tram lines and covers around 3.1 million kilometres annually. More information is available on the RSAG blog: <https://blog.rsag-online.de>.

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. Around 16,600 employees work at eight production and six engineering sites and over 80 service locations, including around 6,000 employees in Switzerland. Stadler is the world's leading manufacturer of vehicles with alternative drive systems (hydrogen and battery) and rack railway vehicles. The company is aware of its social responsibility for sustainable mobility and therefore stands for innovative, sustainable and durable quality products.

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