

**Media release**

HOLDBACK PERIOD 31/08/2017

DOCUMENT 2 pages

ATTACHMENTS 2 photos

Moscow, 31/08/2017

**Stadler and TCC team up at EXPO 1520 in Moscow to present the Chizhik (METELITSA)**

**Stadler and the Transport Concession Company from Saint Petersburg (Russia) presented today the first METELITSA tram in B85600M modification to an international audience of experts. In The Northern capital the new tram will be named as Chizhik and will be operated in the eastern part of the city. The first six trams are to be delivered by November 1, 2017.**

METELITSA is a broad-gauge tram that has been specially designed by Stadler for the Eastern European market. The prototype of the METELITSA was developed for the 2014 World Ice Hockey Championships in Minsk, and subsequently went on to win an audience award at the Tram Parade in Moscow. The first contract for the delivery of 23 METELITSA in B85600M modification was signed in August 2016 by Stadler and LSR-Stroy LLC. The customer and operating company is Transport Concession Company (TCC LLC), which have signed a concession agreement with Saint Petersburg for a period of 30 years in May 2016.

The unique design and configuration of METELITSA, which was named Chizhik by the customer, was developed individually for the technical enquiry requirements within the concession project for the tram network development and operation in the Krasnogvardeisky district of Saint Petersburg. The three-car tram is made with a low floor and five double-leaf doors, making it easy for passengers to step in and out on both sides of the tram. Hinged bogies ensure a quiet and comfortable ride. Inside, there are two separate areas for baby carriages, wheelchairs and bicycles. The three-car, bi-directional trams are 33.45 metres long and can seat up to 376 passengers.

While introducing the tram in Moscow, Peter Jenelten, Executive Vice President Marketing and Sales at Stadler, declared: "We are utterly delighted that, alongside TCC, we are able to introduce the METELITSA today to an international audience of experts. The development of the METELITSA tram is an example of the innovative capabilities Stadler has to offer. Lean train structures and proactive decision-making processes allow us to meet customer demands head-on. Together with our customers, we create transport vehicles that are suitable for all passengers. Our collaboration with the Transport Concession Company gives us a great deal of satisfaction. We are convinced that we will provide passengers in Saint Petersburg with the ultimate in riding comfort."

"The first part of the rolling stock will start operations in the fourth quarter of 2017, – announced Nikolai Petrov, the Deputy Chief Engineer of TCC LLC. – The first six tram cars manufactured by Stadler have successfully passed the factory acceptance tests. They are expected to be delivered to Saint Petersburg to launch trial tests and being prepared for the commercial operation. All in all a total of 23 comfortable cars will run on the tramlines. The entire project of modernization of the tram network in the Krasnogvardeisky district of Saint Petersburg is planned to be completed by the end of 2018."

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## **About Stadler**

*Stadler has been building trains for 75 years. The system provider of rail vehicle construction solutions is headquartered in Bussnang in Eastern Switzerland, and has a workforce of over 7000 based in various locations across Switzerland, Germany, Spain, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Italy, Austria, the Netherlands, Belarus, Algeria, UK and the United States. Stadler provides a comprehensive range of products in the heavy and urban transport segments: High-speed trains, intercity trains, regional and commuter rail trains, underground trains, tram trains and trams. Furthermore, Stadler also manufactures main-line locomotives, shunting locomotives and passenger carriages, including the most powerful diesel-electric locomotive in Europe. Stadler is the world's leading manufacturer in the rack-and-pinion rail vehicle industry.*

*More Stadler figures: The best-selling FLIRT (Fast Light Intercity- and Regional Train) vehicle has already sold over 1400 units in a total of 17 countries. The KISS (the name is an acronym of the German for Comfortable Innovative Speedy Suburban Train) is also very popular: It has sold 270 units in 10 countries. The most powerful diesel-electric locomotive in Europe, the EURO4000, has sold 140 units in 7 countries. Additionally, Stadler Service maintains vehicle fleets comprising over 680 vehicles that cover a combined annual distance of 120 million kilometers in 16 different countries.*

## **About the concession project**

*The concession project of the integrated structure for high-speed tram service development in the Krasnogvardeisky district is the first project for the integrated renovation of the tram network in Saint Petersburg. Throughout the project implementation new tram ways will be constructed, comfortable stops will be installed, passengers will be carried by high-tech rolling stock with the original design and unique name CHIZHIK of the Swiss company Stadler production. The concession agreement between the Transport Concession Company and the Government of Saint Petersburg signed in May 2016 can be considered as unique one. This is the first concession project in Russia in the field of public transport*

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