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Minsk, 18 January 2019

**Stadler wins contract for ten FLIRT trains from the Belarusian Railway**

**Today, the Belarusian Railway Direction and Stadler signed a contract for the delivery of ten FLIRT for interregional business class lines. The first trains will be put in operation from 2020 onwards.**

The contract signed on 18 January 2019 by Vladimir Balakhonov, Deputy Head of the Belarusian Railway, and Philipp Brunner, CEO Stadler Minsk, includes the purchase of ten modern five-car FLIRT running with alternating current. Maximum speed of the trains is 160 km/h. The first electric train (EMU) is to be delivered at the end of 2020.

“Today's event” said Vladimir Balakhonov, “continues the development of a new format of passenger transportation, which the Belarusian Railway began to realize in 2010 in order to create an integrated transportation system in Belarus. It is aimed at effective satisfaction of the population's needs in transport services. Moreover, it proves the perspective development of the Belarusian railway and its readiness to implement significant social projects that will provide the European level of transport service to the citizens and guests of our country.”

“This order strengthens our presence in the Belarusian market,” added Philipp Brunner, “and we are grateful to the Belarusian Railway for their trust and confidence in a high quality and reliability of our modern rolling stock.”

**Main specifications**

The seven-car FLIRT intercity trains that have successfully been running on the Belarusian railway network since August 2016 on the route Minsk-Gomel will become a basis for new trains. They are 92.96 meters long and 3.48 meters wide. Each train provides 260 seats in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class. There will be 16 seats in the 1<sup>st</sup> class zone (enhanced comfort zone). There are comfortable seats with a back that is adjustable and individual armrests. The 1<sup>st</sup> class zone is separated by an electrically operated glass partition. The first class passenger compartment will be equipped with conductor call buttons. When such a button is pressed a conductor receives an audio-video signal in a conductor compartment. An area for large-sized baggage and a wardrobe are foreseen. Comfortable seats with armrests will be installed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> passenger compartments according to the three-plus-two-scheme.

A distinguishing feature of new trains is the organization of vending machines in a passenger compartment. Each window in the new FLIRT trains will have sun-protective roller blinds that can be fixed in any position. There are three toilets in the train, one of which is for people with reduced mobility. Information regarding the number of a car and seats as well all information provided to passengers of control elements will be repeated

in Braille. One of the compartments will be equipped with an area for passengers with prams, bicycles and large baggage.

The trains will be equipped with a Wi-Fi-system to access the internet and also with a system to strengthen the GSM signal. So as to increase the effectiveness of the rolling stock operation the data about the train location, energy consumption and the route will be transmitted to the Belarusian Railway server.

The supplied trains will comply with all requirements of the technical regulations of the Customs Union (TR CU 001/2011). The new trains fit seamlessly into the existing fleet of the Belarusian Railway with already 18 FLIRT. The electric trains of interregional business class lines are planned to be used for the passengers' transportation on the most popular electrified parts of the Belarusian Railway.

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## **About Stadler**

*International rail vehicle construction company, Stadler, is headquartered in Bussnang in Eastern Switzerland. Founded in 1942, it has a workforce of over 7,600 based in various production, service and engineering locations across Switzerland, Germany, Spain, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Belarus and the United States. Service locations are also being operated in countries including Algeria, Denmark, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the UK. Stadler provides a comprehensive range of products in the heavy and urban transport segments: high-speed trains, intercity trains, regional and commuter heavy rail trains, underground trains, tram trains and trams. Stadler also manufactures main-line locomotives, shunting locomotives and passenger carriages, including the most powerful diesel-electric locomotive in Europe. It is the world's leading manufacturer in the rack-and-pinion rail vehicle industry.*

*The best-selling FLIRT (Fast Light Intercity- and Regional Train) vehicle has already sold more than 1,600 units in a total of 18 countries. The KISS, an acronym of the German for Comfortable Innovative Speedy Suburban Train, is also very popular, with nearly 300 units sold in 11 countries. The most powerful diesel-electric locomotive in Europe is the EURO4000, which has sold 140 units in 7 countries. The Stadler Service division maintains vehicle fleets and comprises more than 680 vehicles, covering a combined annual distance of 120 million kilometres in 16 different countries.*

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