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The Giruno Gotthard train has been granted an operating licence

The Swiss Federal Office of Transport (FOT) has issued an operating licence for Stadler's new SMILE high-speed train, called Giruno by SBB, to run at 200 km/h in single traction on the Swiss network. According to today's announcement by SBB, it is planned to put the Giruno into operation gradually from early summer 2019.

On 4 April 2019, the FOT granted Stadler's new SMILE high-speed train an operating licence to run at 200 km/h in single traction. This clears the way for the new Gotthard train to travel with passengers on the Swiss rail network for the first time. The SMILE has successfully reached all the project milestones so far. Since April 2017, several hundred test journeys have taken place in the four intended operating countries – Switzerland, Italy, Germany and Austria.

The Giruno offers a high level of comfort and large luggage racks

The Giruno has a total of 810 seats for passengers, covering a length of up to 400 metres in double traction. The trains are equipped with a low-floor entrance for the different platform heights in Switzerland, Austria and Italy (55 cm) in relation to Germany (76 cm). This is an SBB première for a single-decker, multiple-unit train. The Giruno exceeds the requirements of the Law on Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities; it has around twice as many wheelchair-accessible places and toilets as legally stipulated. The trains can also provide a great deal of comfort: they offer good reception for mobile devices, power outlets at all seats, large luggage racks, gender-separated toilets and a modern lighting concept with energy-saving LED lights. The whole interior is spaciouly and brightly designed.

29 new trains for increased demand on the new transalpine routes

The Gotthard Base Tunnel, the longest railway tunnel in the world, was opened at the end of 2016. At the end of 2020, the Ceneri Base Tunnel will complete the flat railway through the Alps. To meet the increase in demand expected as a result, SBB has ordered 29 multiple units with an option for up to 92 additional trains from Stadler, which can travel at speeds of up to 250 km/h. The vehicles are eleven-part electric multi-system units. Stadler developed and built the new train in just 23 months from the order date in October 2014 – only three months later it has been commissioned. It was presented to the public for the first time at InnoTrans 2016. Stadler calls the high-speed train family «SMILE», while the SBB has given them the name «Giruno», derived from the Rhaeto-Romanic word for buzzard.

Caption: The Giruno on Lake Zug

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About Stadler

Stadler has been building trains for over 75 years. The system provider of rail vehicle construction solutions has its headquarters in Bussnang in Eastern Switzerland. It has a workforce of over 8,500 based in various production and engineering locations as well as more than 40 service locations. 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.

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