

Media release

HOLD-BACK PERIOD none
DOCUMENT 2 pages
ENCLOSURES 2 pictures

Bussnang, 5 March 2020

Gotthard train Giruno granted type approval for Italy

The Railway Agency of the European Union (ERA) has granted authorisation for the new high-speed train SMILE from Stadler, called Giruno by SBB, to run in double traction in Italy.

The ERA has granted type approval for the Stadler high-speed train SMILE for Italy. This means that the Giruno can run in double traction at 200 kilometres per hour in Italy, as provided for in the cooperation agreement between SBB and Trenitalia. The Giruno is the first multiple unit train to be granted European approval (extension of its area of use) by the ERA. Until mid-2019, this required an individual national approval by the Agenzia Nazionale per la Sicurezza delle Ferrovie (ANSF).

Step by step into timetable operation

The Gotthard Base Tunnel – the longest railway tunnel in the world – has been in operation since the end of 2016. With the completion of the 15.4-kilometer-long Ceneri Base Tunnel, the flat track through the Alps will be completed. In December 2020, the tunnel will be officially opened. In view of the expected increase in demand, SBB ordered 29 high-speed multiple-unit trains from Stadler in October 2014 with options for up to 92 additional trains. The train could already be presented to the interested public in September 2016 at the InnoTrans in Berlin. In May 2018 it celebrated its roll-out in Bussnang in the presence of many celebrities. This event also marked the start of extensive tests to obtain approval in four countries. In April 2019, the Giruno was approved for single traction in Switzerland, followed by double traction in May. On 8 May, 2019, the first commercial journey between Zurich Main Station and Erstfeld took place. It was then used regularly on individual routes in Switzerland to gain operational experience on the home network before entering regular passenger service on 15 December 2019. In the next few months Stadler will obtain approval for the individual vehicles and, together with SBB and Trenitalia, will make the Giruno ready for the planned Italian service. This also includes measures to improve the technical maturity and reliability in operation, in particular the ETCS system.

29 fast trains for the flat route through the Alps

The SMILE is an eleven-car electric multi-system multiple unit train with a length of 202 metres, which can travel at speeds of up to 250 kilometres per hour. It exceeds the requirements of the German law on equal opportunities for the disabled and has around twice as many wheelchair-accessible seats and toilets as specified. The Giruno offers comfortable seating for up to 810 passengers in double traction.

About Stadler

International rail vehicle construction company, Stadler, is headquartered in Bussnang in Eastern Switzerland. Founded in 1942, it has a workforce of nearly 11,000 based in various production and over 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.

Media contact:

Stadler Rail Group

*Marina Winder
Secretary General and Head of Communications & PR
Member of the Group Executive Board*

Phone: +41 71 626 31 57

Mobile: +41 78 843 57 20

E-mail: marina.winder@stadlerrail.com