

Media release

HOLD-BACK PERIOD none
DOCUMENT 2 pages
ENCLOSURES 2 images

Berlin, 20 September 2022

More sustainable rail travel for California – MOU Signing

Stadler has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the design and delivery of four zero emission hydrogen FLIRT trains for California. This MOU articulates the responsibilities and roles of each stakeholder and will lead to a contract which outlines the procurement of the zero emission multiple units, with the option to purchase up to 25 units.

The vehicles are intended to be deployed state-wide in California and this MOU stands as an interim agreement for work to begin on California's next big rail investment.

Stadler is the only manufacturer in North America that designs and builds service proven rail vehicles compliant with the FRA AVT Crashworthiness Standards. Stadler is also one of very few original equipment manufacturers who has built a zero-emission multiple unit train powered by hydrogen fuel cell technology. For these reasons, CalSTA and CalTrans have entered into the Memorandum of Understanding with Stadler.

Stadler sold a FLIRT H2 to another California customer, San Bernardino County Transit Authority (SBCTA), in 2019. The vehicle was presented to the public for the first time at InnoTrans in Berlin earlier today. The FLIRT H2 for SBCTA is intended to start passenger service in 2024 as the first hydrogen-powered passenger train in service in the United States.

«Stadler's goal is to help make travel in North America environmentally-friendly through the vehicles and services we provide. Only very few rail lines in the US are electrified, which is why solutions like the FLIRT H2 are so important here. It is great to be part of California's move toward eco-friendly travel with another zero emission project in the state and we look forward to continue our work with CalSTA and CalTrans to make this a reality» says Martin Ritter, CEO of Stadler US Inc.

The Stadler FLIRT is a single-deck multiple-unit train designed for intercity and long distance travel. Stadler has sold 2000 units of its bestseller in 21 countries. In addition to fully electric, diesel and multi-mode propulsion Stadler also offers FLIRT vehicles with alternative drive solutions such as battery and hydrogen. Stadler's battery train, the FLIRT Akku, currently holds the world record for achieving the furthest distance for a battery train in battery-only mode.

About Stadler

Stadler has been building trains for the last 80 years. The headquarters of the supplier of mobility solutions to the railway vehicle sector are located in the town of Bussnang, in eastern Switzerland. More than 13,000 employees work on the production and engineering sites, as well as over 70 service sites. The company is aware of its social responsibility for sustainable mobility and therefore stands for innovative, sustainable and durable quality products. The product range in the field of mainline railways and urban transport includes highspeed trains, intercity trains, regional and suburban railways, underground railways, light railways and trams. In addition, Stadler produces main-line engines, shunters and passenger carriages. Stadler is the world's leading manufacturer of cog railway vehicles.

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