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Veolia chooses Alstom to supply 36 regional trains in Germany

Private German rail operator Veolia Verkehr has awarded Alstom Transport a contract for 36 regional Coradia Continental trains for the Bremen network, to be operated by NordWestBahn. This contract has an order value of about €150 million in total. The trains will comprise three or five coaches, depending on requirements. They will be designed and manufactured at the Alstom facility in Salzgitter, Germany. The first trains will come into commercial service in late 2010.

Coradia Continental trains, which can operate at speeds of up to 160 kph, are characterised by their high degree of modularity. The length of the coaches, number of doors and interior design can be tailored to suit operator requirements and fluctuations in traffic. The Coradia Continental can be used as a regional express or suburban train, giving operators great flexibility of usage.

The continuous low floor, mobile steps into the train and gangways between coaches facilitate access and on-board movement, particularly for people with reduced mobility. Technical equipment is installed on the roof, freeing up more space inside the coaches. The trains are also equipped with tactile pictograms for partially-sighted people and toilets for disabled passengers.

Coradia Continental trains exemplify Alstom's approach to the environment: they are 95% recyclable and their distributed power optimises the braking and acceleration of each coach, decreasing energy consumption. The energy generated during braking is recovered to the national electricity grid, thus resulting in significant savings. Lastly, the train's electronic management systems ensure optimum power usage, hence minimising its energy consumption.

" *This order strengthens our position in the private German railway market,*" declared Roland Kientz, Alstom Transport's Senior Vice President – Northern Europe. " *After BeNEX, Veolia is the second private rail operator to have chosen Alstom's Coradia Continental trains.*" Since the range was launched in 2002, Alstom has sold a total of 269 Coradia Continental and Nordic (winterized) trains in Germany and Sweden to public and private rail operators (including this new order).

The Alstom Transport range of regional trains

With over 30 years' experience in regional transport, Alstom's range of regional and suburban trains provides an answer to the saturation of urban and motorway networks and growing suburban expansion, whilst contributing to regional economic development and protecting the environment. With its Coradia and X'Trapolis ranges, Alstom now offers operators and passengers a range of trains perfectly suited to their needs and demands: high-capacity regional trains that are comfortable, reliable, available, easy to maintain and environment-friendly. Alstom's factories in Salzgitter (Germany), Valenciennes (France) and Savigliano (Italy) have already built over 3 000 regional trains that between them have covered over 4 billion kilometres.

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