

Consortium including Hitachi Rail wins new €1.8bn digital signalling contract for high-speed line between Verona and Padua



- EUR 1.8 billion contract builds on phase one award in 2020 worth €2.4bn to deliver Verona-Bivio Vicenza line
- Hitachi Rail will equip the line with cutting-edge ERTMS digital signalling system
- ERTMS will allow more trains to use the line, at greater speed and with increased reliability

Naples, August 1, 2023 - Hitachi Rail, as part of the IRICAV DUE Consortium has signed a €1.8 billion contract to design and deliver the track and the digital signalling that will cross the city of Vicenza with a new High Speed/Capacity (HS/C) line.

The signing of the contract between RFI and Consortium IRICAV DUE, will enable Hitachi Rail – as a member of the Consortium – to start work on the Crossing of Vicenza. Although only 6.2km in length, the connection will transform journeys for passengers looking to travel between Verona and Padua.

The project will see Hitachi Rail supply its European Rail Transport Management System (ERTMS) digital signalling to create the HS/C line. ERTMS is the most advanced system for the digital control of railways and uses radio signals between the train and track to monitor speed and automatically activate the train's emergency brakes if a hazard is identified or if the train exceeds the track's speed limit. This means that trains can safely run faster and closer together, improving service speed and reliability and allowing more trains on the track.

The ERTMS level 2 system is a significant step in railway interoperability, simplifying and optimising train control on international railway networks. The traditional track-based signalling is replaced by radio communications between the trains and the Radio Block Center (RBC).

This simplifies the railway environment by reducing the costs of the installation and maintenance of the traditional signalling systems. This technology will also allow trains from nearby European countries to operate on Italian railway lines without interruption, with the aim of creating a harmonious and integrated system throughout Europe.

The new contract follows the phase one award (Verona-Bivio Vicenza) signed in August 2020, worth over EUR 2.4 billion. The new railway line will be 76.4km long in total and, in addition to connecting the two cities, will complete the rail link between Milan and Venice.

Luca D'Aquila, COO Hitachi Rail Group and CEO Hitachi Rail Italy, said: "We are particularly proud of this order: our ERTMS digital signalling will deliver for the customer and the passenger alike. Once installed, the system will enable a service that can safely travel at greater speed and with increased capacity on the line."

The consortium delivering this contract is made up of Hitachi Rail (17.05%) and Webuild Italia S.p.A. (82.95%).

Hitachi Rail has taken part in the construction of all the High Speed/Capacity Lines in service in Italy today, supplying its cutting-edge ERTMS digital signalling.

ENDS

Notes to editors:

RFI - Rete Ferroviaria Italiana of Gruppo Ferrovie dello Stato Italiane, has signed with IRICAVDUE and its consortium members the Integrative Act of the Second Functional Lot of the AC/AV Verona-Padova Line: Crossing of Vicenza.

IRICAVDUE consists of Hitachi Rail (17.05%) and Webuild Italia S.p.A. (82.95%).

About Hitachi Rail:

Hitachi Rail is connecting the future of mobility - helping every passenger, customer and community enjoy the benefits of more seamless, sustainable journeys. The company's pioneering technology enables more than 18bn passenger journeys and helps to transport millions of tonnes of freight every year.

As a trusted partner to operators around the world, Hitachi Rail delivers every part of the railway, from manufacturing and maintaining high speed bullet trains to digital signalling infrastructure and more.

Hitachi Rail is delivering value for its customers through Digital Transformation. The company's new Smart Mobility and Digital Asset Management solutions are cutting costs, carbon and congestion, while offering more choice and convenience to passengers than ever before.

Hitachi Rail is becoming a climate change innovator by innovating greener products with its customers - such as battery trains, and through its commitment to reduce its own CO2 emissions to net zero by 2030.

Hitachi Rail's reach is global, but its business is local - with success built on investing in the people and communities that it serves. With over 14,000 employees in 38 countries, the company is growing and looking to recruit diverse talent now.

Find out about more by visiting hitachirail.com or hitachirail.com/careers/

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