

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hitachi Rail delivers first driverless metro for Greece

Thessaloniki's new metro to cut 56,000 cars a day and 77,000 tonnes of CO₂ annually



- Hitachi Rail delivers Greece's first ever driverless metro, as part of a contract to provide CBTC digital signalling and 33 cutting-edge metro trains
- The first phase of Thessaloniki's new metro, opening on November 30, is 9.6 km long with 13 new stations. Once completed, the project will connect the city centre to the airport
- New line estimated to cut 56,000 cars from road daily, and 77,000 tonnes of CO₂ annually.

Naples, November 30, 2024 – Phase one of Greece's first driverless metro, supported by Hitachi Rail's digital signalling technology and advanced metro trains, was inaugurated in Thessaloniki on November 30. The metro entered service for the first time and is expected to cut 56,000 cars from road daily, and 77,000 tonnes of CO₂ annually.

Phase one of the new metro line covers approximately 9.6 km and includes 13 new stations. Elleniko Metro's project and financing plans envisage further development of the line, which, upon completion, will connect the city centre with the airport. An initial extension of the line is already planned and will lead to the construction of a further five stations covering an additional distance of 4.8 km.

Hitachi Rail's involvement in the project has seen it deliver its Communication Based Train Control (CBTC) signalling solution the supply of rolling stock. The first section of the metro will be served by 18 new trains, with a further 15 trains set to be added under a subsequent application contract.

The vehicles, manufactured in Hitachi Rail's Reggio Calabria factory in Italy, consist of four carriages, with an overall length of approximately 51 metres and a transport capacity of 450 passengers per train. In addition to the vehicles, Hitachi Rail's implementation of the line's CBTC based signalling systems supports enhanced service capacity, enabling trains to run safely at shorter intervals. CBTC is a modern urban signalling system that uses wireless communication between trains and infrastructure to operate metro systems more efficiently and safely than conventional signalling. Delivery of the project has drawn upon Hitachi Rail's global CBTC expertise, including from sites in France and the United States.

The inauguration of Thessaloniki's metro marks a major new milestone in Hitachi Rail's expansion of driverless metros around the world. In recent years, Hitachi Rail has delivered

autonomous solutions in a range of markets, including lines 4 and 5 in Milan, and the metros in Taipei, Lima and Copenhagen.

The metro construction work, which was built with care to enhance the history and archaeology of the area, covered the construction of a 55,000 square metres depot the Pylea area and brought to light important archaeological finds, including the discovery of a decumanus maximus. All the discoveries will be put on public display inside the metro stations.

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About Hitachi Rail

Hitachi Rail is committed to driving the sustainable mobility transition and has a clear focus on partnering with customers to rethink mobility. Its mission is to help every passenger, customer and community enjoy the benefits of more connected, seamless and sustainable transport.

With revenues of over €7bn and 24,000 employees across more than 50 countries, Hitachi Rail is a trusted partner to the world's best transport organisations. The company's reach is global, but the business is local - with success built on developing local talent and investing in people and communities.

Its international capabilities and expertise span every part of the urban, mainline and freight rail ecosystems – from high quality manufacturing and maintenance of rolling stock to secure digital signalling, smart operations and payment systems.

Hitachi Rail, famous for Japan's iconic high speed bullet train, draws on the digital and AI expertise of Hitachi Group companies to accelerate innovation and develop new technologies. Hitachi Group is present in 140 countries with over 270,000 employees and global revenues of €54.55bn / ¥8,564 bn.

For more information, visit [hitachirail.com](https://www.hitachirail.com).

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