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CAF SIGNS CONTRACTS FOR MORE THAN €400m

CAF IS SECURING Foothold IN THE UK MARKET WITH THE AWARD OF NEW CONTRACTS FOR THE FIRST GROUP OPERATOR

CAF has signed contracts with the First Group Operator and the finance companies Eversholt Rail Group and Beacon Rail which include the supply and maintenance of 66 passenger cars and 12 electrical units of 5 cars of the CIVITY UK platform. This company operates the TransPennine franchise that runs through the Northern Region of England.

CAF's commitment with the First Group operator will be long-term, as this partnership will continue until the end of the operation of the franchise in 2023 with the provision of technical support service for the maintenance and integral spares management for both train platforms. The contract for the supply and maintenance operations is worth around €310 million.

The new contracts add to those signed by the company also in the UK for €740 million in January, with the Arriva Rail North Limited operator and the Eversholt Rail Group finance company, for the manufacture of two fleets of 43 electric trains and 55 diesel trains, also of the CIVITY platform, which are meant for the Northern region (north of England).

Thus, CAF is supplying new units of this platform fitted with the latest technological developments, with the aim of improving service conditions in the region and the cooperation with the operators during the franchise period, with the ultimate goal of achieving the best passenger service quality standards.

CAF's commitment to the development of the railway sector in the UK

These recent awards by the FIRST GROUP and ARRIVA UK operators are a cornerstone in CAF's consolidation strategy in the UK railway sector, which started with the first project signed in the country in the 90s.

Building on the uncompromising commitment to this market, and as key element in this process, CAF intends to establish new operations in the country with facilities to carry out rolling stock assembly and test activities as well as maintenance.

Likewise, CAF plans to establish a Spares Supply and Management Logistics Centre with the aim of managing the equipment necessary for the supply of components and tools in the various train maintenance and upkeep service operation locations.

Activities carried out in the new facilities and those carried out at the customer's workshops will both benefit from support services from the new Headquarters located at a strategic point on the northern network. This will include the hiring of technical and management personnel, and the provision of support services for Engineering, Purchasing management, Information Systems, Quality and Human Resources. More details related to the establishment of these new facilities will be made public in the coming months.

CAF in the United Kingdom

In the last few years, CAF has had a significant presence in the United Kingdom with a broad range of vehicles and services. In the 90s, the company supplied units for the Northern Spirit line in the same region, as well as for the Heathrow Express link from the airport to Paddington Station in London. More recently in 2002 and subsequently in 2008, projects have been developed for NIR (Northern Ireland Railways) which include both the manufacture of the trains and the operation of maintenance services for 15 years. In the tram family, CAF has supplied trams to the cities of Edinburgh and Birmingham. Lastly, last year CAF signed a contract for around €200 million for the supply of the Caledonian Sleeper cars that will provide service between London and Glasgow-Edinburgh, with planned delivery in 2018.

The UK is currently one of the most active and competitive railway markets on the continent where, over the coming months and years, various railway franchise renewal processes are envisaged, and CAF has plans to be a player in them. Furthermore, CAF is currently prequalified for the London Underground bidding process, and has confirmed interest also in next tender for the HS2 high-speed line that, in the first phase, will link the cities of London and Birmingham in one of the biggest infrastructure projects planned in Europe over the coming years.

NEW PROJECT IN AUSTRALIA

Last week, CAF, as a member of the Canberra Metro and Consortium, entered into the 20 year supply and maintenance contract for 14 trams, within the project that includes the construction of a new light train line for the Australian capital.

These trams are part of the URBOS tram family and combine modern aesthetics with cutting-edge equipment and maximum accessibility without compromising comfort, performance and ease of operation, as well as maintenance. Vehicles of this platform already operate in countries such as Germany, Brazil, United States, France, United Kingdom, Hungary, Serbia, Sweden and Taiwan.

The overall amount of this contract means a turnover in excess of €100 million for CAF.