

Global Mass Transit Weekly

Information & analysis on the global mass transit industry

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NORTH AMERICA

Consat secures contract for NextRide programme, Canada	2
NJ Transit awards contract for Newark Penn Station Revitalisation project, US	2
FTA grants funds under ARP to multiple agencies, US	2
Parsons Corporation awards contract to Iteris for LA Metro NextGen BSP system, US	2
GCRTA deploys 16 buses on HealthLine BRT, US	3
Vicinity Motor and Proterra announce new collaboration	3
GILLIG partners with RR.AI to develop technologies for autonomous buses	3
CTS secures contract for PATH's fare payment system, US	3
RFPs invited to implement zero-emission bus rollout plan for RCTC, US	3

LATIN AMERICA

CRRC–Bombardier JV secures contract to supply 19 additional trains for Sao Paulo monorail Line 15, Brazil	4
Wood to provide engineering solutions for Santiago Metro, Chile	4

ASIA PACIFIC

Construction commences on new line connecting North and South Korea	4
Toshiba to supply traction equipment for Busan Metro, South Korea	4
LTA awards two civil contracts for CRL Phase 1, Singapore	4
ITD Cementation secures two underground contracts for Chennai Metro Line 4, India	5
Land acquisition commences for Pune–Nashik semi-HSR project, India	5
India approves location survey for a rail line to Myanmar	5
KEC International secures third electrification contract for Patna Metro, India	5
Delhi to commence operations on its first electric bus, India	5
AOR commences operations of commuter rail services in Auckland, New Zealand	6
Bids invited to provide consulting services for Shenyang metro, China	6

EUROPE

Metroline deploys zero-emission bus in Potter Bar, UK	6
ADIF AV awards contract to expand and remodel Madrid Chamartín station, Spain	6
Government of Legaria to introduce integrated mobility cards, Spain	6
RATP Group to operate Plateau de Saclay bus network, France	6
Montpellier Metropolitan Authority announces battery-electric bus project, France	6
Ebusco to supply buses to Stadtwerke München, Germany	7
Hochbahn and Moia partner to develop autonomous buses, Germany	7
Stadler to supply tram-trains in Germany and Austria	7
Alstom to supply trains to Norske Tog AS, Norway	7
Nobina deploys hydrogen bus in Copenhagen, Denmark	8
Teleste acquires rail electronics provider Ermetris	8
SZ announces preliminary market consultations for Praha–Smíchov–Beroun HSR, Czech Republic	8
SZ awards design contracts for Moravian Gate HSR, Czech Republic	8
PKP Intercity increases investments for rolling stock programme, Poland	8
Infrastruktura Železnica Srbije announces plans to reconstruct and modernise rail lines, Serbia	9
Transmashholding delivers EMUs for Moscow commuter rail, Russia	9
Bids invited to supply 150 electric buses in Madrid, Spain	9

MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA

SAPTCO receives notification of awarding of bus transport project in Dammam, Saudi Arabia	9
Financial package signed for rehabilitation of Alexandria Raml Tram, Egypt	9

NORTH AMERICA

Consat secures contract for NextRide programme, Canada

BC Transit has announced the completion of a Negotiated Request for Proposals (RfPs) process and has signed a contract with Consat for the next phase of the NextRide programme. The automatic vehicle location (AVL) technology will be installed in communities and in regional transit systems across British Columbia on approximately 315 buses operating on all conventional, fixed routes.

NextRide technology will be installed across transit systems throughout British Columbia starting with the Cowichan Transit System. Two installation teams will work to install the new technology on buses.

NextRide through BC Transit will provide bus location data to mobility providers like Google Maps and BC Transit partner Transit App, so passengers can track and monitor bus routes using the application of their choice.

The NextRide project is funded through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. This project is being cost shared, with the Government of Canada contributing 50 per cent, the Province of British Columbia contributing 40 per cent, and local government partners contributing the remaining 10 per cent.

The project cost for the installation of NextRide in these additional transit systems is nearly CAD6 million.

NextRide falls under BC Transit's Smart Bus programme.

(1CAD [Canadian Dollar] = USD0.80)

NJ Transit awards contract for Newark Penn Station Revitalisation project, US

The New Jersey Transit Corporation (NJ Transit) has awarded a Phase I, USD9.2 million contract to a consortium of Parsons Transportation Group, Grimshaw Architects, and Steer Group to lead the Master Planning and Design portion of the USD190 million Newark Penn Station Revitalisation project.

The agency has also approved funding for Phase 1 of the contract, which includes preparation of a Master Plan and a 10 per cent completion of a concept design.

The master contract calls for the creation of construction plans that will address state-of-good-repair needs as well as long-term capital improvements.

In August 2021, the agency sought proposals from design and construction professionals to restore and modernise Newark Penn Station.

In December 2020, the agency announced USD190 million in state funding for the project.

FTA grants funds under ARP to multiple agencies, US

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has awarded nearly USD9.37 billion under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021 grants for COVID-19 response to the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT, USD332.5 million); the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA, USD1.24 billion); New Jersey Transit (NJT, USD1.6 billion); and the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority (NYMTA, USD6.2 billion).

The grants for CTDOT, LACMTA, NJT, and NYMTA are part of funding amounting to more than USD30 billion allocated for public transportation in the ARP Act. The funding comes from the USD26.6 billion allocated by statutory formulas to urban and rural areas, and tribal governments, and for the enhanced mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities. The Act also includes USD2.2 billion for additional transit pandemic-associated needs, which will be awarded later this year.

Parsons Corporation awards contract to Iteris for LA Metro NextGen BSP system, US

Iteris, Inc. has secured a USD6.8 million subcontract from Parsons Corporation to provide design, implementation, and integration support for the upgrade and expansion of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro) NextGen bus signal priority (BSP) system.

Under the terms of the three-year subcontract agreement, Iteris will provide design services; undertake procurement, integration, and testing; and make operational the new vehicle-to-infrastructure (V2X)-enabled BSP system at an additional 88 signalised intersections along key corridors in the Greater Los Angeles area.

The V2X-enabled BSP system will leverage existing on-bus priority request systems that will

incorporate GPS-based automatic vehicle location (AVL) equipment, wireless communications, and advanced intersection traffic controller technologies that provide intersection-based priority-granting capabilities.

The deployment of the Countywide Signal Priority system is expected to be completed within 34 months.

GCRTA deploys 16 buses on HealthLine BRT, US

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) has deployed 16 new buses on the HealthLine bus rapid transit (BRT) system. The buses are equipped with free Wi-Fi and LCD screens that display real-time route updates, along with news and weather reports. The buses are powered by low-emission technology and meet both EPA and NHTSA programme goals to reduce harmful emission and cut fuel consumption.

Additional technical features include a communication system with traffic lights along the route to reduce the time spent stopped at intersections, interior and exterior cameras for rider safety, and a turn warning system to alert surrounding pedestrians.

Vicinity Motor and Proterra announce new collaboration

Vicinity Motor Corp. and Proterra Inc. have announced a new collaboration to power Vicinity's electric transit buses and work trucks with Proterra's battery technology. Proterra will supply battery systems to power a minimum of 600 Vicinity commercial electric vehicles through 2024. The Proterra Powered Vicinity Lightning vehicle is expected to begin production in the third quarter of 2022.

Under a new multi-year supply agreement, Proterra battery systems will power the Vicinity Lightning 28-foot electric transit bus and Vicinity's strip chassis platform. The agreement is also expected to support Vicinity's next-generation heavy-duty electric transit bus as well as the VMC 1200 Class 3 work truck and the VMC 1500 Class 5 work truck with Proterra battery systems.

GILLIG partners with RR.AI to develop technologies for autonomous buses

GILLIG LLC and RR.AI have partnered to develop next-generation advanced driver assistance systems

(ADAS) and SAE Level 4 autonomous vehicle (AV) technology for GILLIG transit buses in North America.

Under the agreement, the companies will develop and test safety features such as automatic emergency braking, precision docking, and bus yard automation, in addition to blind spot detection and pedestrian avoidance. Additionally, the companies will develop automated driving capabilities which can be deployed for select in-service operations or in the transit depot to help manage electric vehicle (EV) charging and reduce vehicle damage.

Henry Crown and Company, which owns GILLIG, made an investment in Robotic Research, RR.AI's parent company, as part of the company's USD228 Series-A funding in December 2021.

CTS secures contract for PATH's fare payment system, US

The Cubic Transportation Systems (CTS) business division has secured a second contract from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to continue providing and updating the Port Authority Trans-Hudson's (PATH's) next-generation fare payment system.

The contactless fare payment and collection technology will allow passengers to tap and go with their mobile devices and credit/debit cards.

As part of the new contract, CTS will provide PATH with Cubic's fare payment back-office technology to centralise automated fare collection on conventional modes of public transport.

The back-office technology also offers passengers a single account to manage all their travel needs, thereby transforming PATH into an account-based system.

The system will be fully deployed by early 2024. It will replace PATH's SmartLink payment system.

RfPs invited to implement zero-emission bus rollout plan for RCTC, US

The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) has invited Requests for Proposal (RfPs) to appoint a contractor to implement plans to analyse zero-emission buses of the transit system for various cities in Riverside County. The last date for the submission of the RfPs is February 10, 2022.

LATIN AMERICA

CRRC–Bombardier JV secures contract to supply 19 additional trains for Sao Paulo monorail Line 15, Brazil

São Paulo Metro has signed the contract for the purchase of 19 new Innovia 300 monorail trains for Line 15-Silver, which will be manufactured in China by the joint venture (JV) between Bombardier, now owned by Alstom, and CRRC. The seven-car train sets will be 86 metres long and 3.15 metres wide. They will be equipped with air-conditioning systems, CCTV cameras, water-cooled permanent magnet electric motors, four vertical load-bearing tyred wheels, and six horizontal guide tyred wheels. The new train sets will expand the existing fleet to 46 train sets, increasing the frequency of services on the line and serving the extended stretch.

The trains will be delivered to the East Monorail Express Consortium (CEML), which is supplying the track and systems for the extension of the line from Jardim Colonial to Jacu Pêssego in the east and from Vila Prudente to Ipiranga in the west, where it will interchange with Line 10-Turquoise. Line 15 spans 14.6 km and covers 11 stations, connecting Vila Prudente to Jardim Colonial.

Wood to provide engineering solutions for Santiago Metro, Chile

Consulting and engineering firm Wood has secured a contract to provide engineering solutions for section C of Santiago Metro Line 7, which will be developed in the eastern part of the city.

The firm will provide architectural, structural, civil, mechanical, electrical, and instrumentation expertise for developing detailed designs of six stations. A team of 45 engineers will execute the 13-month engineering contract.

Further, the contract is part of a broader 24-month contract that covers site engineering support during the construction stage.

ASIA PACIFIC

Construction commences on new line connecting North and South Korea

Construction has commenced on the 110.9-km northern section of the Donghae Line between Jejin

Station in Goseong and the east coastal city of Gangneung.

The line will connect Goseong, which is currently only connected to the North Korean rail network, with the rest of the South Korean rail network.

The estimated cost of the project is USD2.31 billion. It is expected to be concluded by 2027.

Toshiba to supply traction equipment for Busan Metro, South Korea

Toshiba Infrastructure Systems and Solutions (TISS) has secured the contract to supply permanent magnet synchronous motors (PMSMs) and other electrical equipment for the traction systems of 25 new eight-car trains (200 cars) for Busan Metro Line 1.

Rolling stock for the line will be delivered by Woojin Industrial Systems.

Busan Metro Line 1 spans 40 km and connects the northern and southern sections of the city.

LTA awards two civil contracts for CRL Phase 1, Singapore

The Land Transport Authority (LTA) has awarded two civil contracts for the design and construction of Cross Island Line Phase 1 (CRL1) stations and tunnels at a combined contract value of USD861 million.

The first contract includes the design and construction of Serangoon North station and tunnels and has been awarded to Hock Lian Seng Infrastructure Private Limited at a contract value of USD454 million.

The second contract includes the design and construction of Tavistock station and tunnels and has been awarded to Sato Kogyo (S) Private Limited at a contract value of USD407 million.

Construction works for the Serangoon North and Tavistock stations are expected to commence in the second quarter of 2022, with passenger services for the line expected to commence in 2030.

CRL 1 will span 29 km and cover 12 stations connecting Aviation Park to Bright Hill.

ITD Cementation secures two underground contracts for Chennai Metro Line 4, India

The Chennai Metro Rail Corporation Limited (CMRCL) has awarded two underground construction contracts to ITD Cementation for Chennai Metro Line 4.

The first contract includes a 5.15-km stretch with twin tunnels that connect Bharathidasan Road Station to Light House Station through five stations.

The scope of the contract involves the construction of four underground stations at Light House, Kutchery Road, Alwarpet, and Bharathidasan Road, including an underground stabling yard and a crossover at Light House Station and the associated twin tunnel.

The second contract includes a 4.88-km section with twin tunnels that connect the west ramp of Kodambakkam Flyover Station to Boat Club Station through five stations.

The scope of the contract involves the construction of five underground stations at Boat Club, Nandanam, Panagal Park, Kodambakkam, and Kodambakkam Flyover, including an underground crossover at Panagal Park Station and the associated twin tunnel, cut and cover box, U-section, and the west ramp of Kodambakkam Flyover Station.

Land acquisition commences for Pune–Nashik semi-HSR project, India

The district administration of Pune has commenced the process for land acquisition for the proposed 235.15-km Pune–Nashik semi-high-speed rail (HSR) corridor.

The first purchase deed of the entire project was completed on January 8, 2022.

The Pune–Nashik semi-HSR corridor will pass through Pune, Ahmednagar, and Nashik districts. It will cover a total of 54 villages in four talukas of Pune, that is, Haveli, Khed, Ambegaon, and Junnar.

Once the land acquisition process is completed and approval is received from the central government, construction of the corridor will commence. The estimated cost of the project is INR160.39 billion. The revised detailed project report (DPR) for the project was approved by the Indian Railways in February 2020.

(1 INR [Indian Rupee] = USD0.013)

India approves location survey for a rail line to Myanmar

Indian Railways (IR) has approved the final location survey (FLS) to construct a 111-km broad-gauge line from Imphal, the state capital of Manipur, to Moreh, located on the India–Myanmar border, under an initiative to improve international rail connections in South Asia.

The project had been on hold after an earlier survey conducted by Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) concluded that the project was not financially viable.

The line, a critical component of the proposed Trans-Asian Rail Network, will provide rail connectivity from India to Myanmar and Thailand and eventually to China.

KEC International secures third electrification contract for Patna Metro, India

KEC International has secured the third electrification contract for Patna Metro. The scope of work includes supplying SITC with 25 KV of overhead equipment system (OHE); switching posts; 33 KV ring mains; auxiliary substations for the elevated sections and SCADA systems for the underground and elevated sections of corridors 1 and 2 and of the ISBT depot of the Patna Metro rail project.

Delhi to commence operations on its first electric bus, India

The Delhi government has announced plans to commence operations on its first electric bus, which will run along a 27-km-long route from Indraprastha Depot to Pragati Maidan via ITO, Tilak Marg, Mandi House, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, Janpath, Rajesh Pilot Marg, Prithviraj Road, Aurobindo Marg, Safdarjung Road, Ring Road, South Extension, Ashram, Bhogal, Jangpura, India Gate, and High Court.

The bus has been manufactured by JBM Auto Limited. According to the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC), 50 more buses will be added to the fleet by the end of February 2022.

There are plans to procure and deploy 2,300 electric buses in total. Of these, 1,300 will be procured by the DTC and the remaining 1,000 buses will operate under the cluster scheme.

AOR commences operations of commuter rail services in Auckland, New Zealand

Auckland One Rail (AOR), a joint venture (JV) comprising ComfortDelGro Transit (CDGT) and UGL Rail, has begun operating services on Auckland's commuter rail network.

AOR will receive NZD130 million annually for operating the network for the first eight years. The operator will oversee the procurement of additional electric trains, undertake projects worth NZD7 billion for the network, and implement the electrification of the rail line between Pukekohe and Papakura. The contract will cover train operations, electric train maintenance, station operations, upkeep, and security.

AOR secured the contract from Auckland Transport to serve as the operator in August 2021.

(1 NZD [New Zealand Dollar] = USD0.68)

Bids invited to provide consulting services for Shenyang metro, China

Liaoning Jingwei Engineering Management Company Limited has invited bids to provide consulting services to identify third-party risk hazards for Shenyang Metrorail system. The last date for the submission of the bids is February 8, 2022.

EUROPE

Metroline deploys zero-emission bus in Potter Bar, UK

Metroline has deployed a new zero-emission single-deck bus on Route PB1 in Potters Bar. The bus route will start and terminate at Potters Bar railway station and will cover 32 stops.

ADIF AV awards contract to expand and remodel Madrid Chamartín station, Spain

The Vías y Construcciones, Comsa, Azvi, and Constructora San José consortium has secured a EUR207 million contract from Administrador de Infraestructuras Ferroviarias (ADIF) Alta Velocidad (AV) to expand and remodel the Madrid Chamartín station on the Madrid Chamartín–Clara Campoamor HSR line.

The contract will cover the construction of four new tracks to accommodate an increase in high-

speed trains, such as from the standard-gauge tunnel that will connect the Madrid Chamartín station to the Madrid Puerta de Atocha station. The consortium will also construct a new platform, remodel the station to include the additional tracks, construct an underground connection with the Cercanías lobby and with the Madrid metro system, and construct a new technical building for high-speed installations. The project will be financed by the European Union (EU) through Next Generation EU funds.

The construction of the tunnel connecting the Madrid Chamartín station to the Madrid Puerta de Atocha station is estimated to cost EUR1.48 billion. The European Investment Bank (EIB) has proposed a EUR740 million loan to finance the tunnel project.

(1 EUR [Euro] = USD1.13)

Government of Legaria to introduce integrated mobility cards, Spain

The government of Legaria has announced plans to introduce integrated mobility cards which will be used to pay for services on the new buses deployed in the Legaria corridor. Card readers will be installed on the buses.

The government has commenced operations of 65 new buses, which replaced 73 minibuses operating in Legaria. The new buses are equipped with Euro V engines, pollutant particle traps, video surveillance cameras, geo-positioning systems, and passenger counters.

RATP Group to operate Plateau de Saclay bus network, France

Régie Autonome des Transports Parisiens (RATP) Group has secured a six-year contract from the Paris-Saclay municipal federation to operate the Plateau de Saclay bus network. The operator will deploy buses on 44 regular bus lines and two demand-responsive bus lines. The contract also includes the management and maintenance of a 13.5-km route linking Massy to the Plateau de Saclay through the Polytechnique district in Palaiseau. RATP Group will begin operating the bus network from August 1, 2022.

Montpellier Metropolitan Authority announces battery-electric bus project, France

The Montpellier Metropolitan Authority has announced that the Montpellier Horizon Hydrogène

hydrogen bus project will be replaced by a battery-electric bus project due to the lower cost of operating battery-electric buses. The financial calculations for the project revealed that the operating costs for fuel cell buses would be over six times higher than the operating costs for battery-electric buses (EUR0.95 per km versus EUR0.15 per km).

Initially, 51 fuel cell buses were planned to be deployed under the Montpellier Horizon Hydrogène project at a cost of EUR29 million across four future high-service-level bus lines between 2023 and 2025.

(1 EUR [Euro] = USD1.13)

Ebusco to supply buses to Stadtwerke München, Germany

Ebusco has secured an order from Stadtwerke München to supply 14 Ebusco 2.2 18-metre buses. The buses will be deployed in Munich and are scheduled for delivery in the first half of 2023.

Hochbahn and Moia partner to develop autonomous buses, Germany

Hochbahn and Moia have partnered to develop autonomous buses by 2025. The buses will be developed for the Hamburg-Takt plan, which aims to provide a mobility service to every Hamburg resident within five minutes from morning to evening.

The companies will run trial operations of approximately 30 buses in Winterhude, Uhlenhorst, and Hohenfelde districts.

Stadler to supply tram-trains in Germany and Austria

Stadler has signed a EUR4 billion framework agreement to supply 504 vehicles for the Association of German Transport Companies (VDV) Tram-Train project from the project consortium, comprising Verkehrsbetriebe Karlsruhe (VBK), Albtal-Verkehrsgesellschaft (AVG), Saarbahn Netz, Schiene Oberösterreich, the State of Salzburg, and Zweckverband Regional-Stadtbahn Neckar-Alb. The company has received an initial firm order for 246 CityLink tram-trains worth EUR1.7 billion; these tram-trains will be manufactured over the next ten years. The agreement includes an option to order an additional 258 vehicles and an offer to provide maintenance services for a period of 32 years.

The CityLink tram-trains will have a three-part design which will vary depending on the delivery location and company. The vehicles will be equipped with a heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system in the passenger and driver's compartments, and multi-purpose areas with two wheelchair spaces. They will be able to operate on tram networks and be configured for use as inter-city trains.

Stadler will deliver the first four vehicles to Saarbahn in 2024; this will be followed by the delivery of 24 vehicles in 2025. Saarbahn will have an option to order an additional 21 vehicles to replace its rolling stock. AVG will receive 75 vehicles from Stadler starting from 2025, with an option to order an additional 52 vehicles. VBK will receive 73 vehicles starting from 2026, with an option to order 52 additional tram-trains. Schiene Oberösterreich will receive 20 vehicles starting from 2026; these vehicles will replace the existing fleet in Upper Austria. The company will be able to order an additional 50 vehicles for the Linz city regional railway system. Salzburg will receive 20 vehicles starting from 2026, with an option to order an additional five vehicles. Zweckverband Regional-Stadtbahn Neckar-Alb will receive 30 vehicles starting from 2027, with an option to order an additional 57 vehicles.

Verkehrsbetriebe Karlsruhe is managing and coordinating the VDV Tram-Train project.

(1 EUR [Euro] = USD1.13)

Alstom to supply trains to Norske Tog AS, Norway

Alstom has signed a EUR1.8 billion framework agreement with Norske Tog AS to supply 200 Coradia Nordic regional trains, with an initial firm order for 30 electric multiple units (EMUs) trains worth EUR380 million. The trains will be adapted to meet the needs of the regional railway network in the greater Oslo region. The EMUs will be able to operate at a maximum speed of 160 km/hr.

The train sets will comprise six single-deck coaches and will have the capacity to carry 778 passengers. They will be equipped with the European Train Control System (ETCS) and an advanced odometry solution designed for the vehicles to withstand harsh winter conditions.

The train fleet will be deployed between Ski and Stabekk in the greater Oslo region.

(1 EUR [Euro] = USD1.13)

Nobina deploys hydrogen bus in Copenhagen, Denmark

Nobina has commenced operations of an emission-free hydrogen bus leased from Kinto, a subsidiary of Toyota, on the Lyngby–Ishøj bus route in Copenhagen. The bus has a cruising range of 400 km.

Teleste acquires rail electronics provider Ermetris

Finland-based Teleste has acquired Italy-based Ermetris.

Ermetris is a supplier of rail electronics and related services. It also provides passenger information, public address, on-board internet, video surveillance, passenger counting services, and other transportation products. The company will continue to operate as an independent firm, as part of Teleste's Video Security and Information business unit. Teleste aims to use Ermetris's services to strengthen its position in providing services for rolling stock manufacturers and public transport operators in Italy.

SZ announces preliminary market consultations for Praha-Smíchov–Beroun HSR, Czech Republic

Správa železnic (SŽ) has announced preliminary market consultations for the issuing of the Praha-Smíchov–Beroun HSR design tender.

The preliminary market consultation will be open to all contractors with experience in constructing bored tunnels longer than 500 metres in the field of transport construction. Potential contractors will be invited to attend a video conference where the intended design of the technical solution will be presented; this will be followed by a moderated discussion. Participants will need to fill in a questionnaire after the discussion. The questionnaire responses will then be assessed by SZ.

Further, SZ has announced plans to sign several contracts to conduct the survey works for the Praha-Smíchov–Beroun HSR. Details about the project and the scope of survey works will be presented to potential contractors during a video conference. A branch from the tunnel to the Branický Bridge in the direction of Praha-Krč will be constructed in Prague. Similarly, a branch will be built in the direction of Hořovice/Plzeň in Beroun. The trains on the rail corridor will be able to operate at speeds of up to 200 km/hr. The project is

estimated to cost EUR1.5 billion. Construction is expected to commence in 2028 and is scheduled to be completed in 2042.

(1 EUR [Euro] = USD1.13)

SZ awards design contracts for Moravian Gate HSR, Czech Republic

The AFRY CZ, AF-Infrastructure, and Sagasta consortium has secured a design contract from Správa železnic (SZ) to prepare the zoning decision documentation for the 20-km Prosenice–Hranice na Moravě section (Moravian Gate I) of the Moravian Gate high-speed (HSR) line. The scope of the contract includes preparation of documentation for the construction of a traction power station in Prosenice, and the construction of an exit to the existing railway network at the Hranice na Moravě station.

Mmoravia Consult Olomouc, Sudop Brno, and Metroprojekt Praha consortium has secured a design contract from SZ to prepare the zoning decision documentation for the 45-km Hranice na Moravě–Ostrava-Svinov section (Moravian Gate II) of the Moravian Gate HSR project.

The Moravian Gate HSR will allow trains to travel at a maximum speed of 320 km/hr. The construction is scheduled to commence in 2025 and to be completed by 2028.

PKP Intercity increases investments for rolling stock programme, Poland

PKP Intercity has increased the total investment for its rolling stock programme from PLN19 billion to PLN27 billion.

The programme will cover the procurement of 35 electric multiple units (EMUs), 35 hybrid multiple units, 162 electric locomotives, 926 coaches, 8 seven-car push-pull double-decker trains, 45 multi-system electric locomotives, 16 hybrid locomotives able to run at speeds of 160 km/hr and 120 km/hr, and 28 shunting locomotives. Further, PKP Intercity will modernise 54 EMUs, 87 electric locomotives, 1,500 coaches, and will convert 13 SM42 diesel locomotives into two-unit vehicles. The rolling stock will comprise vehicles that have been upgraded to meet the needs of passengers with children and those with disabilities. The programme aims to double PKP Intercity's rolling stock by 2030, with trains travelling at speeds between 160 km/hr and 250 km/hr.

The European Investment Bank (EIB) has granted a EUR434 million loan to PKP Intercity to acquire 108 electric locomotives, 300 passenger coaches, and 38 push-pull rakes of coaches; and to modernise 14 EMUs and 288 passenger coaches.

(1 PLN [Polish Zloty] = USD1.13; 1 EUR [Euro] = USD1.13)

Infrastruktura Železnica Srbije announces plans to reconstruct and modernise rail lines, Serbia

Infrastruktura Železnica Srbije has announced rail investment plans for 2022 that will cover the reconstruction and modernisation of 300 km of rail lines.

The authority has commenced construction of the 108-km Novi Sad–Subotica line, which is part of the Novi Sad–Subotica–Kelebija main line.

The scope of work includes the construction of an underpass in Kisačka Street in Novi Sad and the reconstruction of the Novi Sad railway station. The construction is expected to be completed by November 2024.

The documentation process for projects to reconstruct, upgrade, and construct an additional 720 km of rail line in Serbia is currently underway.

Transmashholding delivers EMUs for Moscow commuter rail, Russia

Russia-based Transmashholding has delivered seven 11-car EP2D electric multiple units (EMUs) which will be deployed in Moscow by Central Suburban Passenger Co., a commuter rail operator in Russia.

The EMUs are equipped with two- and six-person wear-resistant bench seats, USB chargers, and HVAC incorporating air sanitisers to counteract viruses and bacteria.

The train sets are fitted with folding ramps, wheelchair spaces, accessible toilets, and Braille signage to provide accessibility to passengers with disabilities.

Further, the train sets comply with safety requirements for use in the Customs Union countries (Belarus, Kazakhstan, and the Russian Federation), with the end cars and couplers incorporating crash protection modules.

Bids invited to supply 150 electric buses in Madrid, Spain

Empresa Municipal de Transportes de Madrid (EMT Madrid) has invited bids in two lots to supply 150 electric buses in 2022 and 2023. Lot 1 includes supply of 90 electric buses with delivery of 45 vehicles in 2022 and 45 in 2023; and lot 2 includes supply of 60 electric buses with delivery of 30 vehicles in 2022 and 30 in 2023. The estimated value of the contract is EUR82.5 million (excluding VAT). The last date for submission of bids is February 7, 2022.

MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA

SAPTCO receives notification of awarding of bus transport project in Dammam, Saudi Arabia

The Saudi Public Transport Company (SAPTCO) has announced that it has received a notification of the awarding of a project by the Eastern Province Municipality for a public bus transport project in Dammam city and Al-Qatif governorate, for a period of five years.

The cost of the project is estimated at SAR149.6 million.

The project will have a positive impact on the company's revenues in the first half of 2022.

(1 SAR [Saudi Riyal] = USD0.26630)

Financial package signed for rehabilitation of Alexandria Raml Tram, Egypt

A consortium of European banks and development agencies has signed a EUR246 million financial package with Egypt for the rehabilitation of the Alexandria Raml Tram. The project aims to rehabilitate and extend the route of the tramline and to renovate its stations and rolling stock.

Of the total EUR246 million, the European Union (EU) will grant EUR8 million, the French Development Agency (AFD) will contribute EUR100 million, and European Investment Bank (EIB) will contribute EUR138 million in concessional loans.

The project is expected to be completed by 2024. The first phase of the project will span 21 km and will connect Abu Qir town in the east of Alexandria to Misr Station. The second phase will span 21 km and will connect Misr Station with Max Station, replacing the existing tramway line.

(1EUR [Euro] = USD1.14).◆