

## PRESS RELEASE

5th October 2016

### ABELLIO CONFIRMS DEAL WITH STADLER AND ROCK RAIL FOR NEW TRAINS

- Part of largest ever privately-procured trains order in UK
- An important economic boost for the East Anglian economy
- Total of nearly £1.5 billion financings now completed in the 'post-Brexit vote market'

Abellio UK, recently awarded the new nine year East Anglia rail franchise by the Department for Transport, has today confirmed that it has now finalised contracts worth nearly £1.5 billion to procure and finance the replacement of all the existing trains on the franchise that starts on Sunday 16th October.

This completes the largest ever privately-procured order for trains in the UK. Two new fleets of 1,043 carriages will be introduced to the franchise between Spring 2019 and Autumn 2020, built by Bombardier in Derby (665 carriages) and Stadler in Switzerland (378 carriages). They will replace the existing fleets of trains and will create an increase of approximately 10 percent in the fleet size compared to today.

Abellio has today finalised contracts worth over £600 million to procure and finance the purchase of new Intercity and Regional train fleets from renowned Swiss train manufacturing company, Stadler. The company's FLIRT trains, which will be built for the needs and specifications of the railways of East Anglia, are already in service on the rail networks of several European countries.

Funding of these new Stadler trains was led by Rock Rail and SL Capital Partners with additional co-investment equity being provided by the Greater Manchester and London Pension Fund authorities. Debt was arranged by DC Advisory from Aviva, the European Investment Bank, Sun Life, Barings Asset Management (formerly Babson Capital), Legal & General and Standard Life Investments.

The 58 trains that make up the deal comprise 378 vehicles with a combination of Intercity Electric Multiple Units and Regional Bi-mode Multiple Units which can run under electric or diesel power. They are the first major passenger fleet order in the UK for Stadler and will run on the following routes:

- InterCity services between London and Norwich
- Stansted Express airport services from London to Stansted Airport
- Key Regional services in East Anglia

The Stadler trains are designed to provide a significantly enhanced passenger experience that will transform rail travel for people in Norfolk, Suffolk and parts of Essex and Cambridgeshire. The FLIRT trains to be used on the East Anglia franchise will be equipped with climate-controlled air-conditioning; '2x2' seating; Wi-Fi and power points throughout the train; a low floor design, allowing easier access to platform from the train; passenger information systems with real-time information; and regenerative braking.

Commenting on the new contract, Dominic Booth, Managing Director of Abellio UK, said: "Our ambitious plans for the new franchise are centred on the largest-ever privately-funded train procurement in the UK to give the people of East Anglia high quality trains as part of a transformation of the region's railway. They will be the centrepiece of many other improvements including more frequent services, faster journeys and more capacity with 55% more seats into London in the morning peak".

Peter Jenelten, Executive Vice President and Head of Marketing & Sales of Stadler said: "I am delighted that Stadler has been chosen by Abellio East Anglia for the supply of these new trains in the prestigious UK rolling stock market. All the trains we will be delivering are derived from the latest generation of the best-selling FLIRT family, featuring low floor and level boarding for improved accessibility, passenger comfort and safety. The regional Bi-mode trains feature environmentally friendly, state of the art diesel-electric technology."

Mark Swindell, Founding Partner of Rock Rail, which has acted as the lead financier to Abellio, said: "Rock Rail is delighted to be able to work with new institutional investors, demonstrating that Rock Rail has become attractive to investors looking to invest in the UK. This includes the European Investment Bank, investing in post-BREXIT Britain and the Manchester and London pension funds. It is pleasing that Aviva have made their second investment in UK rolling stock.

"We are proud to be part of the transformation of Abellio East Anglia rail services giving a step-change for passengers with these high-quality Stadler trains."

As announced last week, Abellio has also selected Angel Trains to finance the procurement of the 665 new Bombardier Avenra train vehicles in a £900 million deal. The Bombardier Avenra trains will all be built in the UK, securing around 1,600 jobs at the company's plant in Derby. The Avenra trains will serve mainly suburban routes into London.

Angel Trains has a wealth of asset management experience and has invested more than £4.7 billion in the UK rail industry since privatisation.

Legal advice to both deals was provided by Bond Dickinson whose lead partner on the deals, Paul Coleman, said "We are delighted to have supported Abellio in the complex negotiations for these new train orders, which represent the largest ever investment by a private operator in UK rolling stock. Bond Dickinson is proud to have helped achieve this".

Ends

For further information, please contact:

**Abellio UK**

Edward Funnell on 07717 806 720 or Matthew Stacey on 07826 892159,  
Email: EastAngliaFranchise@abellio.com

**Stadler**

Csaba Kiss on 00 36 1 327 4060 / Mobile: 00 36 30 511 0158, Email:  
csaba.kiss@stadlerrail.com

**Rock Rail**

For more information about Rock Rail, visit: [www.rockinfrastructure.com](http://www.rockinfrastructure.com) or contact Mark Swindell on 07971 142109.

**Notes to Editors**

**About Abellio UK**

Abellio UK is a UK-based company with offices in London and Glasgow. It operates the ScotRail franchise and the Merseyrail rail concession in a joint venture with Serco, as well as the Greater Anglia franchise. Abellio UK also runs several bus routes in Greater London and Surrey. Abellio's role in transport extends beyond the journey from a-to-b. Its approach of sharing best practice across the wider transport industry provides thought leadership and innovation that makes a positive contribution to the communities it serves. Abellio is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dutch Railways (NS - Nederlandse Spoorwegen). [www.abellio.com](http://www.abellio.com)

**About Stadler**

Stadler has been building trains for 75 years. The system provider of rail vehicle construction solutions is headquartered in Bussnang in Eastern Switzerland, and has a workforce of around 7,000 based in various locations across Switzerland, Germany, Spain, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Italy, Austria, the Netherlands, Belarus, Algeria, Australia and the United States. Stadler produces high-speed trains, intercity trains, regional and commuter rail trains, underground trains, tram trains and trams. In addition, Stadler manufactures main-line dual-mode locomotives, shunting locomotives and passenger carriages, including the most powerful diesel-electric locomotive in Europe. Stadler remains the world's leading manufacturer in the rack-and-pinion rail vehicle industry. To date, it has sold 1,300 vehicles in 18 countries.

### **About Rock Rail Ltd**

Rock Rail Limited is a company formed by Rock Infrastructure Limited and focusing on strategically important rail assets within the United Kingdom. Rock Infrastructure has been trading since 2011 and has strong relationships with financial institutions that wish to invest directly in infrastructure assets over the long term.

Rock infrastructure works in the Transport, Energy, Defence and Healthcare sectors and is currently working with The Mersey Gateway Crossings Board Ltd on the Mersey Gateway Bridge PPP, Transport for London on structuring the procurement of new "off budget" Thames river crossings and CAE Inc on restructuring an MOD PFI simulator training project for the Chinook and Puma helicopter fleet.

Rock Rail Limited is funding the new trains for GTR's Moorgate line and is bidding to fund other new rolling stock for operators and is structuring an approach to funding stations, depots and other parts of Network Rail.