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Alstom to supply 360 subway cars to New York City for about €500 million

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board of Directors voted today to award an €810 million (\$1.12 billion) option for 620 new heavy rail subway cars to Alstom and Kawasaki. Alstom will supply 360 cars for about €500 million. The option is a part of an original contract awarded on 31 July, 2002, which covers the design and manufacture of new R160 cars, spare parts and special tools.

The new cars will replace old ones and give New York City Transit additional capacity for expansion purposes. The 620 cars will be delivered in 2008-09. By exercising this option, NYCT confirms its confidence in Alstom's products and commitment to quality and service. Alstom has already supplied 54 cars to NYCT since 2002.

The body shells will be manufactured in Alstom's Lapa facilities, Brazil. The cars will be assembled and tested in Hornell, USA. The stainless steel cars are lighter, quieter and more comfortable than older trains thanks to airbag suspension instead of mechanical springs.

In fulfilling this option, Alstom will draw on its expertise in the area of metro systems. One in four metros presently in operation in the world is an Alstom metro. Among other major projects currently underway, Alstom Transport builds and equips Singapore's metro system – the most extensive, completely automatic metro in the world; and Lausanne's metro system in Switzerland.

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