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Starting signal for first hydrogen filling station for passenger trains in Hesse

Ground-breaking ceremony with State Secretary Deutschendorf: Rhine-Main Transport Association (RMV), Alstom and Infraserv Höchst develop hydrogen infrastructure in the Rhine-Main region

When the State Secretary of the Hessian Ministry of Economics, Energy, Transport and Housing puts a personal hand on the construction of a filling station, it must be a very special project. In fact, the filling station that will be built in Industriepark Höchst in the next few months is anything but ordinary: It is the first hydrogen filling station for passenger trains in Hesse and the second worldwide, where the world's largest fuel cell train fleet in passenger traffic will be supplied with hydrogen from December 2022. State Secretary Deutschendorf gave the starting signal for this project on Monday, October 26, together with RMV-Managing Director Prof. Knut Ringat, Dr. Jörg Nikutta, Managing Director of Alstom Germany and Austria, and Dr. Joachim Kreysing, Managing Director of the industrial park operator Infraserv Höchst. Alstom is supplying the fuel cell trains that RMV will use, while Infraserv Höchst, the operator of the industrial park, is building and operating the filling station.

Hesse as a pioneer in environmentally-friendly mobility concepts

"Hesse is a pacemaker on the way to climate- and environmentally friendly mobility, as the Taunusnetz project also demonstrates," said State Secretary Deutschendorf. *"In 2022, pollutant-free fuel cell trains will replace the old diesel vehicles there - an electric operation without overhead lines, which could also be an interesting alternative for other regions. I would like to thank RMV and Industriepark Höchst for their courage in realizing this innovative project".*

RMV: World record with fuel cell fleet

For the Rhine-Main transport association, the project has a very special significance. *"With Alstom's fuel cell trains, we are opening up a new chapter of emission-free mobility at RMV,"* said RMV-Managing Director Prof. Knut Ringat at the ground-breaking ceremony. *"With the 27 vehicles, we are setting a world record: Nowhere else is there such a large fuel cell fleet in local public transport."* Prof. Ringat praised the excellent cooperation with the rail vehicle manufacturer Alstom and Infraserv Höchst: *"I am delighted that we are able to complete this mammoth project on schedule and on budget."* The total order volume is 500 million euros.

Alstom trains: Emisson-free and low-noise through the Taunus

"Today's groundbreaking ceremony heralds a new era in emission-free rail traffic in the Rhine-Main region. We are delighted that Infraserv will take over the refuelling of our series trains for RMV," said Dr. Jörg Nikutta. Alstom's "Coradia iLint" fuel cell trains, which thanks to a range of up to 1,000 kilometers can travel an entire day on RMV's network, will replace the diesel-powered locomotives ordered by RMV's subsidiary fahma on the lines (RB 11 Frankfurt-Höchst - Bad Soden), RB12 (Frankfurt-Königstein), RB15 (Frankfurt - Bad Homburg - Brandoberndorf) and RB16 (Friedrichsdorf - Friedberg). The world's first passenger train powered by a hydrogen fuel cell runs completely emission-free, is quiet and emits only water vapor and condensation.

Infraserv Höchst: Committed to hydrogen and fuel cell technology

Infraserv Höchst, the operating company of the 4.6 square kilometer Industriepark Höchst, has been active in hydrogen and fuel cell technology for many years. The first hydrogen filling station for cars was put into operation in 2006. *"We are very proud that Infraserv Höchst and Industriepark Höchst can contribute to the further development of this technology of the future,"* said Dr. Joachim Kreysing, Managing Director of Infraserv Höchst. The chemical industry has traditionally been one of the industrial sectors in Germany that produces innovative technologies. *"Even the pressing questions about energy supply and mobility concepts of the future can only be answered by the chemical industry,"* said Dr. Kreysing.

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*The **Rhein-Main-Verkehrsverbund (RMV)** is one of the largest German transport associations. It coordinates and organizes regional bus and rail traffic over an area of around 14,000 square kilometers. This is around two thirds of the area of the state of Hesse. Around 5 million people live in the area covered by the network. If the inhabitants of the transition tariff zones are included, the figure rises to 6.7 million. The network was launched in 1995 and since then, more and more people have chosen RMV: 805 million passengers travelled on it last year.*

In this way, RMV makes a significant contribution to the development of the Rhine-Main area as a vibrant metropolitan region.
www.rmv.de

Leading the way to greener and smarter mobility worldwide, ***Alstom*** *develops and markets integrated systems that provide the sustainable foundations for the future of transportation. Alstom offers a complete range of equipment and services, from high-speed trains, metros, trams and e-buses to integrated systems, customised services, infrastructure, signalling and digital mobility solutions. Alstom recorded sales of €8.2 billion and booked orders of €9.9 billion in the 2019/20 fiscal year. Headquartered in France, Alstom is present in over 60 countries and employs 38,900 people.*

Coradia iLint *is the first passenger train in the world to be powered by a hydrogen fuel cell, which generates electrical energy for propulsion. This completely emission-free train is quiet and emits only water vapor and condensation water. The train features several different innovations: clean energy conversion, flexible energy storage in batteries and intelligent management of motive power and available energy. Designed specifically for use on non-electrified lines, it enables clean, sustainable train operations.*
www.alstom.com

Infraserv Höchst *is the leading partner for chemical and pharmaceutical companies in the development of research and production sites. The company's services include energy supply, waste management, network operation, site services, occupational health and safety, environmental protection and facility management. Together with its subsidiaries, the Infraserv Höchst Group also covers logistics, education and process technology. The Infraserv Höchst Group has some 2,700 employees and 193 trainees. In 2019, Infraserv Höchst, including its subsidiaries Infraserv Logistics, Infraserv Höchst Process Technology, Provadis Partner for Education and Consulting and Thermal Conversion Compound, generated revenues of more than 1 billion euros. Infraserv Höchst is the operator of Industriepark Höchst, a 460-hectare park that is home to some 90 companies from the pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, basic and specialty chemicals, crop protection, food additives and services sectors. Some 22,000 people work here. Total investment since 2000 has amounted to approximately 8 billion euros.*
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