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Alstom and Kazakh Railways sign an agreement to produce point machines in Kazakhstan

Alstom and Kamkor, an industrial subsidiary of Kazakhstan's national rail company, Kazakhstan Temir Zholy (KTZ), signed, on 19 September in Paris, a memorandum of understanding to form a joint venture dedicated to signalling.

The new joint venture, would be equally held by Alstom and Kamkor, would produce point machines in Kazakhstan. Its implementation will be effective after the parties have agreed on the governing documents. The agreement follows a more than one year period of testing of Alstom's point machines on the Kazakh network. These tests were necessary to evaluate the machines' resistance to Kazakhstan's extremely low winter temperatures. Reduced maintenance costs and improved security levels, as compared with models previously used in the country, convinced KTZ of the interest of a cooperation with Alstom.

The Kazakh market for point machines represents a substantial volume in view of the length of its network (14,000 km), the third longest using the 1520 mm track gauge (Russia and CIS). The machines could also be sold in other CIS countries, as well as in third markets. After the recent signature of an agreement of partnership in Russia between Alstom and the Russian company Promelectronica, this new agreement enables to cover all the needs for railways signalling equipment of countries using the 1520 mm track gauge.

Alstom Transport in Kazakhstan

In October 2010, Alstom and its Russian partner, Transmashholding, won a contract for the supply of 295 electric locomotives to KTZ involving partial relocation of production to Kazakhstan.

Alstom will also supply the tramway system for Astana, the Kazakh capital, as part of a French-Kazakh consortium. The contract for the first phase of the project should be implemented before year-end. Last July, the Kazakh President laid the foundation stone of the future network in Astana.

About Alstom Transport

A promoter of sustainable mobility, Alstom Transport develops and offers the most comprehensive range of systems, equipment and services in the rail sector. Alstom Transport manages all aspects of transport systems, including rolling stock, signalling and infrastructure, as well as offering its clients turnkey solutions. In 2010-2011, Alstom Transport posted sales of €5.6 billion. Alstom Transport is present in over 60 countries and employs some 25,500 people.

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