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September 9, 2021



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The latest rail news on Thursday, 9th September 2021

The Office of Rail and Road (ORR) today reports in its interim review that Hitachi's Class 800 and 385 series trains were affected by stress corrosion and fatigue cracks.

These resulted in a significant number of Class 800 trains being withdrawn from service in May.

ORR's report found that once the cracks were identified, the industry worked collaboratively to swiftly withdraw the trains and then to establish a suitable process for assessing which trains were able to return to service.

The regulator's interim report finds that since being put back into service, trains have performed as specified, with no unsafe conditions or harm arising from the cracking.

HS2 Ltd today confirmed the shortlist of bidders in the running to build the high speed rail project's network control centre and rolling stock maintenance depot, which will create around 500 long-term jobs in Birmingham's Washwood Heath.

The contract - worth an estimated £275 million - will see the winning bidder work with HS2 Ltd to transform the 30-hectare brownfield site into the nerve centre of the HS2 network.

Network Rail has launched the second phase of its ten-year Network Operating Strategy, aimed at improving operations in the rail industry.

Also known as Net Ops 2, the strategy has been developed in partnership with operational colleagues from across the rail industry.

It sets out a series of recommendations on how to better enable operational teams to deliver improved

train services for customers and passengers.

Nexus has confirmed an order for four additional trains for the new Tyne and Wear Metro fleet as manufacturing by Stadler has officially began.

The new order brings to 46 the number of trains Stadler will deliver as part of a £362m programme which will transform the journey experience for Metro customers.

Photo credit: Nexus