RailBusinessDaily

InnoTrans 2022: Focus on sustainable mobility

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Some 2,834 exhibitors from 56 countries are attending InnoTrans in Berlin this week, with the show officially opening today (20 September).

More than 1,000 invited guests attended the opening event attended by European Union commissioner Adina Vălean and Federal Transport Minister Dr. Volker Wissing

There are 250 world innovations from international exhibitors, with 124 rail vehicles on display using 3,500 metres of track. There are 42 display halls as well as the outdoor area.

This is the 13th such event and the first since September 2018 due to the pandemic with two previous events postponed. "Nothing comes close to meeting in person, seeing old friends again and making new contacts on the stands and at the many specialist events that accompany the trade fair. No video presentation, regardless of how well made, can replace seeing, hearing, smelling and even testing products at the event", said Martin Ecknig, CEO of Messe Berlin.

EU Transport Commissioner Adina Vălean sees the transition to new forms of mobility as a pan-European task. "In the years to come rail transport will be the focus of European transport policy, and InnoTrans, the leading international trade fair for transport technology, provides a valuable insight into how our plans will



become reality. I am looking forward to witnessing some of the 250 innovations on display at this year's InnoTrans, which will contribute to making rail transport and public transport more sustainable and resilient."

Kerstin Schulz, the director of InnoTrans said: "InnoTrans provides a market coverage that is unparalleled anywhere in the world. The products and services include drive systems, buses, cybersecurity, ERTMS, AI, maintenance, trams, hydrogen-powered trains and dual-mode vehicles. I am also especially looking forward to the many international delegations, including from Egypt, Korea, Japan, Brazil, the USA, Morocco and Saudi Arabia."

Some 29 international associations, 15 industry associations and 20 transport companies are exhibiting at InnoTrans.

Sustainability has also become an important topic for manufacturers. Overall, visitors can look forward to around 250 world innovations in the five segments Railway Technology, Railway Infrastructure, Public Transport, Interiors and Tunnel Construction. Innovations are identifiable by a button on the stands and hall plans to make navigating the halls easier. The World Innovation Guide (both the printed and online version at innotrans.de) contains detailed descriptions of the new products and services.

Vehicles on display include hydrogen-powered trains. Siemens Mobility is presenting its Mireo Plus H, the next generation of hydrogen-powered trains, as well as the Mireo Plus B, which features a high-performance modular battery system. The hydrogen-powered passenger train Coradia iLint from Alstom is currently in service on commercial lines in Germany, and is due to operate twice daily from Berlin-Spandau to Berlin-Ostbahnhof. Guests of Alstom and selected partners will be able to enjoy a test ride.

Among the exhibits being shown by Alstom on the outdoor display area are the double-decker Coradia Stream, a high-capacity train for regional services, and the Traxx locomotive featuring a last-mile option, which uses the European Train Control System (ETCS).

Stadler is taking part with seven vehicles this year. For the first time the company is showing the public its hydrogen-powered FLIRT H2 multiple unit train for the American passenger rail market. In addition, Stadler is presenting its latest-generation TINA tram. This features a fully integrated drive system which for the first time allows for a completely new interior concept that dispenses with steps and platforms.

For the first time, Südostbayernbahn (SOB) is presenting an innovative train (Ideenzug) which it has developed. This "laboratory of the future on rails" features ten different modules, seven in-house designed seating systems, newly designed doors, as well as office compartments and a passenger information system that among other things displays free seats. In July, it earned SOB the Innovation Award of Bundesverband SchienenNahverkehr (BSN).

The Slovakian goods wagon manufacturer Tatravagónka is supplementing its hall exhibits with six vehicles on the outdoor display area. Alstom, Vossloh, Plasser und Theurer, Robel, Daimler Truck, Thales, Hitachi and many other exhibitors are also taking part.

Rail transport is increasingly becoming part of a world of networked mobility. InnoTrans 2022 has taken



this trend into account by introducing the new Mobility+ segment. Exhibitors displaying supplementary mobility services will come together with national and international transport companies, transport networks and administrations and present their concepts and systems to the industry.

Exhibitors' products and services will range from shared mobility, mobility apps with travel information, booking and payment functions, to technology solutions such as on-demand transit systems and flying objects such as drones. Solutions such as first/last mile options as well as ride sharing providers will also be represented. The Mobility+ Corner will discuss new forms of networked mobility, and at five other Speakers' Corners companies will hold keynote speeches with ideas on new products and industry news.

For many exhibitors finding qualified personnel is a key issue. For that reason, InnoTrans 2022 has expanded Campus, its careers programme, in Hall 4.2. Companies and job seekers will be represented on the Talent Stage. The Eurailpress Career Boost will take place on the Talent Stage on 21 September at 1400. At the Elevator Pitch, candidates will present themselves to companies with 90-second pitches. All exhibitors will be able to post their vacancies. Every day, there will be three free guided tours which applicants can take part in to contact prospective employers on the stand and find out about their products.