

**Press release**

Munich, 18 January 2021

## **Long-distance mobility: Knorr-Bremse wins equipment contract for Talgo ECx passenger trains**

- **Knorr-Bremse and Spanish vehicle manufacturer Talgo sign equipment contract for 23 ECx passenger trains for Deutsche Bahn, with an option for 77 more trains**
- **From the first quarter of 2021, Knorr-Bremse will supply braking systems, heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, entrance systems, as well as windscreen wiper units with a total order value in the mid tens of millions (EUR)**
- **The new ECx trains will be deployed from 2023 on the Berlin-Amsterdam route and on long-distance services within Germany, contributing to shorter journey times, greater availability and barrier-free mobility**

**Munich, 18 January 2021 – Knorr-Bremse, the global market leader for braking and other systems for rail and commercial vehicles, has concluded an equipment contract with the train manufacturer Talgo for 23 new ECx long-distance trains. From 2023, the locomotive-drawn passenger railcars will expand Deutsche Bahn's fleet for national and international long-distance services. The ECx trains are designed to make journeys faster, more attractive and more comfortable, particularly on the Berlin-Amsterdam route as well as tourist routes to the North Sea and the Alps. The order, with a total volume in the mid tens of millions (EUR), includes the option to equip an additional 77 trains, which would bring the total order to 100 trains.**

“Passenger trains are a vital part of the overall rail system. Alongside high-speed services, they carry a large share of passengers between individual cities and regions, thus helping to relieve congestion on roads,” remarks Dr. Jürgen Wilder, Member of the Executive Board of Knorr-Bremse AG and responsible for the Rail Vehicle Systems division. “In this respect, we are delighted to work with our partner Talgo in providing more attractive, comfortable and highly available long-distance mobility with our system technologies.”

### **The new ECx: Knorr-Bremse on board with braking, HVAC and entrance systems**

According to the order, which has been issued in the fourth quarter of 2020, Knorr-Bremse will supply braking, HVAC and entrance systems as well as windscreen wiper units to Talgo from the first quarter of 2021. After testing is successfully completed in 2022, the ECx passenger trains will successively replace older ICE1 trains on various routes from 2023.

The braking systems feature the EP Compact brake control, VV-270T compressors, steel brake discs and brake pads, and the vehicles and locomotives are also equipped with magnetic track brakes. Air conditioning is provided by roof-mounted, lightweight and compact HVAC units from MERAK, Knorr-Bremse's global subsidiary for integrated air conditioning solutions, which offer powerful, energy-efficient cooling performance even at a temperature of 40 °C. The systems from MERAK's successful Saloon Roof-Mounted Compact (SRC) family, deployed among others on Talgo high-speed trains in Saudi-Arabia and Spain, are the market's first serial units prepared both for conventional and natural refrigerants like R290.

Passengers will board via E3D-e1 doors from Knorr-Bremse subsidiary IFE, the global market leader for rail vehicle entrance systems, which also meet PRM requirements (People with Reduced Mobility). With no steps to climb when boarding, the ECx sets standards in terms of accessibility and offers all passengers greater flexibility and comfort. Moreover, Knorr-Bremse will be equipping the trains with windscreen wiper systems featuring electro-pneumatic control modules.

**Faster mobility with higher availability: Berlin–Amsterdam every two hours**

The trains will be in service on the Berlin-Amsterdam line from December 2023 and will run every two hours. With the new ECx, journey times will be cut by 30 minutes to 5 hours and 50 minutes. This is made possible by the Talgo new multi-system locomotives, which will eliminate the need to change locomotives at the border.

In addition, the new ECx fleet will serve tourist destinations on the North Sea and in the Alps: from summer 2024 the new trains are scheduled to operate on the routes between Westerland (on the island of Sylt) and Cologne; between Westerland, Frankfurt and Karlsruhe; between Westerland and Berlin and between Oberstdorf (in the Bavarian Alps) and Cologne. With this extensive supply contract awarded by Talgo, Knorr-Bremse is playing a significant role in providing faster, more comfortable rail travel within Germany and to the Netherlands and ensuring barrier-free mobility with high availability.

**Caption:**

**Image 1:** Knorr-Bremse and train manufacturer Talgo have signed an equipment contract for 23 ECx passenger trains for Deutsche Bahn. | © Deutsche Bahn

**Knorr-Bremse (ISIN: DE000KBX1006, Ticker symbol: KBX)** is the global market leader for braking systems and a leading supplier of other rail and commercial vehicle systems. Knorr-Bremse's products make a decisive contribution to greater safety and energy efficiency on rail tracks and roads around the world. About 29,000 employees at over 100 sites in more than 30 countries use their competence and motivation to satisfy customers worldwide with products and services. In 2019, Knorr-Bremse's two divisions together generated revenues of EUR 6.9 billion (IFRS). For more than 115 years the company has been the industry innovator, driving innovation in mobility and transportation technologies with an edge in connected system solutions. Knorr-Bremse is one of Germany's most successful industrial companies and profits from the key global megatrends: urbanization, sustainability, digitization and mobility.

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