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Major GSM-R Contract for FREQUENTIS Delivery of GSM-R equipment for the British Network Rail

Shortly before Christmas Eve 2003, FREQUENTIS, a renowned manufacturer of railway communication equipment, won a contract for the delivery of GSM-R dispatcher equipment by Network Rail, who operate, maintain and renew Britain's Railway infrastructure. The Austrian high-tech company is to deliver a countrywide GSM-R Fixed Terminal System, including GSM-R dispatcher terminals and the ground switching with comprehensive functionality.

GSM-R is a safety communications system and will enable drivers and signallers across the country to be able to talk directly with each other. Furthermore, maintenance staff and other railway workers, such as train dispatch staff at stations, will be able to use the technology to ensure communication with signallers and others.

The British GSM-R rollout will include the whole of the rail network on the UK mainland and is due to be completed by 2013. It will provide Network Rail and British train operators with one of the most modern operations communication infrastructures in the world.

FREQUENTIS is in charge of designing and equipping the entire fixed terminal network and in total, more than 900 signalmen working positions are to be equipped.

The Viennese high-tech company will deliver a complete GSM-R Fixed Terminal System, including GSM-R dispatcher terminals, the ground switching centres, remote switches, and application servers with comprehensive functionalities. For instance train location data will be processed to feature enhanced Location Dependant Addressing (eLDA).

Usability and reliability

FREQUENTIS systems are known for their state-of-the-art technology and reliability. But it was not only the high reliability of the equipment that brought the decision for FREQUENTIS. Another important factor, amongst others, was the carefully designed user interface on the ergonomic terminal equipment.

Second Rail Project in the UK

The GSM-R project is not the first rail success for FREQUENTIS in the UK. Previously, in 2002, a major contract for the delivery of the operational telecommunication system for Network Rail's Network Management Centre (NMC) in the vicinity of Birmingham was won by FREQUENTIS from the US based prime contractor, Union Switch & Signal.

This NMC will be responsible for the greater part of the West Coast Main Line (WCML), the busiest stretch of railway in Great Britain. The concept of the FREQUENTIS system for the WCML NMC allows for the future inclusion of the GSM-R network into the NMC network.

Strengthening the position as GSM-R supplier

After Germany and Finland, FREQUENTIS' contract win in Great Britain is its third major GSM-R contract within the last 12 months. It underlines the company's position as a leading supplier of Fixed Terminal Systems for GSM-R.

Frequentis Rail

Frequentis is a manufacturer of railway communication equipment. Located in Vienna, Austria, it provides a product range to meet the requirements of operational communication systems and GSM-R systems for railways.

With its workforce of more than 500, the engineering driven group is active in more than 50 countries. As a specialist in communication systems for critical applications it has gained a leading positions in markets Public Transport, Public Safety, Maritime Systems, Air Traffic Control and Military Command Systems.

About Frequentis

For Background Information about Frequentis please see www.frequentis.com.