

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mechan to supply both internal and external traversers for new Hitachi factory in Newton Aycliffe

Sheffield factory to manufacture new traversers

Newton Aycliffe, 9 May, 2014 – Hitachi Rail Europe Ltd. today announced that it has selected Sheffield-based Mechan to supply both the internal and external traversers for its new Newton Aycliffe factory. The factory is building the brand new high speed trains for the Intercity Express Programme (IEP).

The confirmation comes as Darren Cumner from Hitachi Rail Europe and Richard Carr from Mechan put pen to paper on the contract at a signing ceremony at the site of Hitachi Rail Europe's Newton Aycliffe factory.

The contract will see Mechan develop and produce two traversers for the factory, one internal and one external, that will be delivered in spring next year. The contract follows on from previous equipment Mechan has provided to Hitachi Rail Europe depots in Ashford and at North Pole (West London). Mechan has also recently been appointed by VolkerFitzpatrick to provide equipment drops for Hitachi's Stoke Gifford depot with installation expected in Spring 2015.

Production of the traversers is taking place at Mechan's Sheffield facilities, after which they will be sent to Newton Aycliffe for installation.

Mechan has affirmed that, as a result of the contract, it has been able to secure its workforce's future for the next year.

Darren Cumner, Manufacturing Plant Manager, Hitachi Rail Europe said: "Mechan is recognised as one of the market leaders in depot handling systems and Hitachi Rail

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Europe has had a long-term relationship with Mechan on other programmes. As part of the build project for our factory, we conducted an extensive and competitive tendering process for these two traversers given their importance to production. This process reaffirmed to us that we were already working with the right partner who can match our expectations on quality and reliability. This award sees Hitachi Rail continue our strong relationship with Mechan.”

Richard Carr, Managing Director of Mechan, said: “This contract is fundamental to Mechan. We have been involved in the IEP and other Hitachi projects for the last 4-5 years, providing different types of equipment for depots across the country. We support our clients throughout the entire commissioning and manufacturing process and we are pleased Hitachi has chosen a local British company to manufacture these traversers. Almost 95% of our supply chain is in the UK and typically 80% of this is within just 20 miles of our Sheffield factory.”

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About Hitachi Rail Europe Ltd.

Hitachi Rail Europe Ltd., is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hitachi Europe, Ltd. and is headquartered in London, UK.

Hitachi Rail Europe is a total railway system supplier offering rolling stock, traction equipment, signalling, traffic management systems, and maintenance depots.

Hitachi draws on many years of experience as a leading supplier of high-speed trains such as the Shinkansen (bullet train) for the Japanese and international markets. In Europe, Hitachi Rail Europe's first rolling stock contract was to deliver a fleet of 29 Class 395 trains, the first domestic high-speed train in the UK, which are maintained at Hitachi's state of the art depot in Ashford, Kent. As part of the British Department for Transport's Intercity Express Programme, Hitachi Rail Europe will replace the UK's ageing fleet of Intercity trains, and will establish a new rolling stock manufacturing facility in Newton Aycliffe, UK for this purpose. The trains will be maintained and serviced in a number of new maintenance depots along the Great Western Main Line and the East Coast Main Line.

For more information about the company, please visit: www.Hitachirail-eu.com .

About Hitachi, Ltd.

Hitachi, Ltd. (TSE: 6501), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, is a leading global electronics company with approximately 326,000 employees worldwide. The company's consolidated revenues for fiscal 2012 (ended March 31, 2013) totaled 9,041 billion yen (\$96.1 billion). Hitachi is focusing more than ever on the Social Innovation Business, which includes infrastructure systems, information & telecommunication systems, power systems, construction machinery, high functional material & components, automotive systems and others.

For more information on Hitachi, please visit the company's website at <http://www.hitachi.com>.

Mechan

Using traditional engineering skills, innovative design and advanced technology, Sheffield manufacturer, Mechan, supplies a wide range of specialist heavy lifting, handling and control equipment for the maintenance of trains.

With more than 40 years experience in the rail sector, Mechan is the UK's market leader in depot handling and maintenance systems. The company is at the forefront of new product development and has established an unrivalled reputation for quality, safety and reliability.

Mechan enjoys success at home and overseas and boasts longstanding relationships with some of the most prestigious names in the transport industry. The company also has an established a network of approved distributors, strengthening its product portfolio and international presence.

For more information on the company, please visit <http://www.mechan.co.uk/>

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