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**Stadler becomes first European manufacturer to sell locomotives in Bolivia and expands its presence in Latin America**

**Stadler has become the first European manufacturer to sell locomotives in Bolivia, on concluding an agreement with the Bolivian rail operator FCA for the supply of the first three units of SALi locomotives.**

Stadler and the Bolivian Ferrovial Andina (Andean Railway) FCA have signed a contract for the supply of the first three state-of-the-art "SALi" (South American Light Loco) locomotives, designed specifically for the Latin American market. They will be developed and manufactured in their entirety at the facility owned by the Swiss company in Valencia, Spain.

The locomotives are of an ultra-lightweight design and feature cutting-edge technology, to successfully face the challenges faced by operating on meter-gauge track under conditions of great altitude (over 5000 meters above sea-level). They are capable of reaching a speed of 100km/h, combining a high-power output at great altitude with reduced fuel consumption.

Thanks to an optimal balance between traction, power and speed, SALi are especially adapted for freight service. They also feature two acoustic and heat-insulated driver cabs to ensure comfort under extreme temperature conditions. SALi comply with all the safety and visibility requirements and are built in accordance with the latest trends and ergonomic criteria.

FCA provides integral freight and passenger transportation services efficiently, safely, reliably and with quality along a railway network comprising 2276km. It crosses the western part of Bolivia, linking the Departments of La Paz, Oruro, Cochabamba, Potosí and Chuquisaca, and providing international links with Chile (Arica and Antofagasta), Argentina (La Quiaca) and Peru (Puno).

**A commitment to the "Bioceanic Corridor"**

Stadler is specialized in the design of locomotives for international corridors. Like its predecessor, the EURODUAL in the Mediterranean Corridor, SALi, due to its design and performance, is destined to become the benchmark locomotive of the Bioceanic Rail Integration Corridor which, crossing Bolivia, will link the Peruvian port of Ilo (near Tacna) with the port of Santos, near Sao Paulo in Brazil. This mega-project, driven by President Evo Morales' government, includes Uruguay, Paraguay and Argentina along the waterway of the Paraguay and Parana rivers.

For Iñigo Parra, Stadler's Executive Vice President Division Spain, "this contract represents the crowning moment for many years of intense work carried out in the Latin American continent, which we believe has a

great rail-oriented future. The progress of the rail freight, the connection by rail of the Pacific and Atlantic seaboard and the solving of the mobility challenges posed by the big cities will provide multiple opportunities in the railway sector for which Stadler has efficient solutions”.

In turn, Carlos Gill, a Ferroviana Andina executive, stated: “This is another step forward towards the railway unification of Bolivian territory and the furtherance of opportunities for integration and trade, not only within Bolivia but also with its neighbouring countries and other parts of the world, by means of much more competitive and safer transportation.”

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## **About Stadler**

*Stadler has been building trains for 75 years. The system provider of rail vehicle construction solutions is headquartered in Bussnang in Eastern Switzerland, and has a workforce of over 7000 based in various production, service and engineering locations across Switzerland, Germany, Spain, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Belarus and the United States. Service locations are also being operated in countries including Algeria, Denmark, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the UK. Stadler provides a comprehensive range of products in the heavy and urban transport segments: High-speed trains, intercity trains, regional and commuter rail trains, underground trains, tram trains and trams. Furthermore, Stadler also manufactures main-line locomotives, shunting locomotives and passenger carriages, including the most powerful diesel-electric locomotive in Europe. Stadler is the world's leading manufacturer in the rack-and-pinion rail vehicle industry.*

*More Stadler figures: The best-selling FLIRT (Fast Light Intercity- and Regional Train) vehicle has already sold over 1400 units in a total of 17 countries. The KISS (the name is an acronym of the German for Comfortable Innovative Speedy Suburban Train) is also very popular: It has sold 271 units in 10 countries. The most powerful diesel-electric locomotive in Europe, the EURO4000, has sold 140 units in 7 countries. Additionally, Stadler Service maintains vehicle fleets comprising over 680 vehicles that cover a combined annual distance of 120 million kilometers in 16 different countries.*

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