

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Alstom, Transdev and Région Sud unveil the first Omneo trainset, which will ensure the rail link on the first regional line open to competition between Marseille, Toulon and Nice**

**Crespin, November 23, 2023** - Olivier Delecroix, Vice President Marketing & Sales Alstom France, and Thierry Mallet, Chairman and CEO of Transdev, presented Renaud Muselier, President of the French Région Sud and President Delegate of Régions de France, with the first Omneo trainset to operate on the Marseille-Toulon-Nice rail link, prior to the start of homologation tests. Starting at the end of November, this trainset will undergo a four-month series of dynamic overspeed tests on the Velim ring in the Czech Republic. After returning to Crespin to finalize the static tests and complete the interior fittings, it will then go into pre-operational service in the French Région Sud.

On November 30, 2021, Région Sud awarded Transdev the contract to regional operate trains on the Marseille-Toulon-Nice line from summer 2025. This route alone represents 10% of the region's rail services. The Region's decision is a historic one. It is the first tender for regional trains to be awarded to a competitor of the incumbent operator since passenger rail transport was opened up to competition.

Under the public service concession contract, Transdev will acquire the rolling stock needed to operate the inter-metropolis services on behalf of the Region, as well as building a maintenance center close to the Nice station. This will enable Transdev to ensure a high level of operational safety, controlled and optimized maintenance and, consequently, total availability of trains, particularly during peak times.

In this context, Transdev has chosen Alstom to supply 16 double-decker Omneo 8-car trains, offering high standards of comfort and on-board service. The contract, worth around 250 million euros, also includes maintenance support for a 10-year period. Delivery of the new equipment, manufactured at Alstom's Crespin (Nord) site, will start at the end of 2024.

The Omneo trainsets on the Marseille-Toulon-Nice line are designed to meet the specific challenges of Transdev's operations, including :

- The creation of a convivial area where passengers can enjoy a snack area.
- The interior layout offers all the services requested by Régions Sud, such as bicycle storage spaces (12 per train), and an interior harmony in keeping with the Region's image.
- The implementation of new on-board services, including innovative systems for video-surveillance, seat reservation, bicycle reservation, passenger counting and on-board Wi-Fi.

The new 8-car, 110-meter-long trains will offer 352 seats, plus 49 folding seats for short-haul passengers (a total of 401 seats). This high capacity is achieved by alternating single- and double-decker cars. Added to this is the modularity that allows one or two trainsets to be coupled together, depending on expected ridership.

Access to the train is on the same level through wide doors and is facilitated by an automatic roll-out system that fills the gap between the train and the platform (gap-filling system). The fluidity of on-board circulation is also ensured by an architecture conducive to movement, based on wide corridors and spacious platforms.

Comfort has been specially designed for long journeys on this coastal train: wide seats, large glass walls to take advantage of natural light and the seaside panorama, clear passenger information with screens and displays, regulated air conditioning according to on-board density, 2 classes with upper and lower travel rooms, toilets accessible to all, including wheelchair users, and connectivity tools (Wi-Fi, electrical and USB sockets).

These new trainsets will be compatible with the new ERTMS (*European Rail Traffic Management System*) signaling system to be deployed on this route from 2028. They will also be compatible with the new infrastructure

created by the LNPCA project (Ligne Nouvelle Provence Côte d'Azur, which involves reconfiguring the network and offering more trains to the region) in its various phases.

These Omneo trains are based on Alstom's Omneo platform, for which 544 trainsets have already been ordered by 10 French regions (403 suburban and regional trainsets and 141 Intercity trainsets).

At the request of Région Sud, Transdev is doubling the transport offer, with 15 round-trip connections per day and hourly intervals over a wider range of hours. The aim is to provide better quality of service, reliability, regularity, and punctuality (97.5% of trains on time). This line is also resolutely committed to the ecological transition, with traction energy for the trains to be 100% green of French origin, with the purchase of green certificates from the chosen electricity supplier. Additionally, train drivers will be trained in rail eco-driving.

*"I'm delighted to be in Northern France today for the unveiling of the new Omneo SUD train sets. These trains will go into operation in June 2025 on the Marseille Toulon Nice line - a line we have awarded to TRANSDEV after a competitive tender. On this route, the number of trains will be doubled, which will encourage the greatest possible number of people to shift from road to rail, in line with the objectives set out in our Climate Plan "une COP d'Avance". In this way, we're doing everything we can to improve the day-to-day experience of passengers on regional trains", declared **Renaud MUSELIER**, President of Région Sud, and President Delegate of Régions de France.*

*"Our commitment to Région Sud is the primary expression of our business: we bring people and territories closer together," commented **Thierry Mallet, Chairman and CEO of Transdev**. "Our long-standing experience in the rail industry clearly shows how important service quality is in ensuring that more and more passengers use our trains. That's what we'll be doing from Nice to Marseille, with a high frequency of trains, a wide range of timetables, and staff who pay constant attention to passengers and safety."*

*"We're proud to be involved in setting up the first concession for a French regional line with Transdev. Today, we have presented a proven, comfortable train, capable of running at 200 km/h, serving the mobility of all passengers. We will also provide maintenance support, thus contributing to the long-term operational efficiency of the trains", said **Olivier Delecroix, Vice-President Marketing & Sales Alstom France**, adding: "This train has been awarded the 'Origine France Garantie' label. This comes as a recognition of the expertise of the employees at the Crespin site, and a pledge of our commitment to our customers, passengers and the entire French rail industry."*

The new Marseille-Toulon-Nice inter-metropolitan link will enter service on June 29, 2025.

### **About Région Sud Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur**

The Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region, in its capacity as transit authority, works on a daily basis to offer all users appropriate, high-performance travel solutions. Nearly 550 regional trains a day run on the regional network, carrying around 40 million passengers a year. The development of regional transport services and ridership is a fundamental part of the regional climate plan. Each regional train or coach journey is often one less car journey, and therefore a contribution to the fight against climate change. The Region is taking action at every level. It is increasing its offer, offering attractive fares and improving the reliability and quality of its services. The Region is also investing massively in rail transport, whether in rolling stock, maintenance centers, station and interchange development or network modernization.

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### **About Alstom**

Alstom commits to contribute to a low carbon future by developing and promoting innovative and sustainable transportation solutions that people enjoy riding. From high-speed trains, metros, monorails, trams, to turnkey systems, services, infrastructure, signaling and digital mobility, Alstom offers its diverse customers the broadest portfolio in the industry. With its presence in 63 countries and a talent base of over 80,000 people from 175 nationalities, the company focuses its design, innovation, and project management skills to where mobility solutions are needed most. Listed in France, Alstom generated revenues of €16.5 billion for the fiscal year ending on 31 March 2023. Its 12,500 or so employees in France possess the know-how to serve French and international customers. Some 30,000 jobs are generated in France by its 4,500 French suppliers. For more information, please visit [www.alstom.com](http://www.alstom.com).

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**About Transdev**

As a global mobility operator and integrator, Transdev enables everyone to get around everyday thanks to safe, efficient and innovative solutions serving the common good. Following the acquisition of First Transit (March 2023), Transdev transports more than 10 million passengers every day, thanks to its various efficient and environmentally friendly modes of transport, and employs more than 100,000 women and men in the service of its passenger customers, thus consolidating its position as world leader in public transport. Transdev advises and supports local authorities and companies in a long-term partnership. Transdev is jointly owned by Caisse des Dépôts (66%) and Groupe Rethmann (34%). The Transdev Group, present in 19 countries, generated sales of 7.7 billion euros in 2022. Further information: [www.transdev.com](http://www.transdev.com)

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