Press release

World premiere: DB and Siemens present the first automatic train

S-Bahn Hamburg: Hanseatic city is pioneering digital rail operations • Passengers benefit from expanded rail services and greater punctuality

(Hamburg, October 11, 2021) Deutsche Bahn (DB) and Siemens Mobility have developed the world’s first train that operates by itself in rail traffic.
Dr. Richard Lutz, CEO of DB, and Dr. Roland Busch, CEO of Siemens AG, together with Dr. Peter Tschentscher, Mayor of Hamburg, presented the train today as it made its premiere run as part of the Digital S-Bahn Hamburg project.

The train is controlled by digital technology and is fully automated. The driver remains on the train to supervise the journey with passengers on board. Shunting, such as turning the train around, is done without on-board personnel. The project partners DB, Siemens Mobility, and the City of Hamburg have invested a total of €60 million in the digital S-Bahn Hamburg, which is part of DB’s Digital Rail Germany project.

Dr. Richard Lutz, CEO of DB: “Today we’re experiencing the true turn of an era: The railroad has arrived in the digital future and Digital Rail Germany has become a reality. With automated rail operations, we can offer our passengers a significantly expanded, more reliable and therefore improved service – without having to lay a single kilometer of new track. It is our goal to make rail transport attractive to ever-larger numbers of people, which is the only way we can achieve the mobility transition.”

"We are making rail transport more intelligent. Trains drive the perfect timetable automatically, accurate to the second and energy-optimised," says Dr. Roland Busch, CEO of Siemens AG. "This way, we are supporting our partner Deutsche Bahn in its goal of making train travel more attractive and protecting the climate. With our technology, our customers can transport up to 30 percent more passengers, significantly improve punctuality and save more than 30 percent energy. The digital S-Bahn Hamburg marks a world premiere. The new technology has already been officially approved and, since it features open interfaces, can immediately be used by operators worldwide for all types of trains."

Dr Peter Tschentscher, First Mayor of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg: "Digitisation holds a lot of potential for the entire Hamburg S-Bahn network. We are creating greater capacities on the existing tracks and improve reliability and punctuality of rail travel. The premiere of the digital S-Bahn at the ITS World Congress is a strong signal for efficient and climate-friendly mobility of the future."

The digital S-Bahn had its premiere run at the opening of the Intelligent Transport Systems World Congress (ITS) in Hamburg. During the congress, four digital S-Bahn trains will...
operate automatically along the 23-kilometer section of S-Bahn Line 21 between the Berliner Tor and Bergedorf/Aumühle stations.

The technical basis for digital rail operations is the future European Automatic Train Operation (ATO) standard, combined with the European Train Control System (ETCS). The trains receive their control signals via radio. The four digital S-Bahn trains in Hamburg will provide regular scheduled passenger service beginning in December. Plans to digitalize Hamburg’s S-Bahn entire system by the end of the decade are already under way, and investments in trains and infrastructure are being made. The technology is projected to be used nationwide for regional and mainline rail systems.

**DB presents further innovations at the ITS World Congress in Hamburg**

From October 11 to 15, Hamburg and the ITS World Congress are the global showcase for the future of mobility. Companies from around the world are presenting their innovations at the world’s largest trade fair for transport and logistics. Deutsche Bahn is highlighting innovations in rail infrastructure, train stations, mainline and commuter transport, and mobility interconnections. Just last year, DB and the city of Hamburg extended their 2017 smart city partnership for a further five years. Both partners plan to use digital technologies and innovative ideas to make local public transport and train stations more attractive for customers. This trend can already be seen at the Dammtor train station, the gateway to the ITS World Congress: Improved displays with new train information and innovative routing guidance provide orientation for all travelers and congress guests. Artist-designed showcases create a special flair in the station.

This press release and a press picture are available at [https://sie.ag/3Ds8Dud](https://sie.ag/3Ds8Dud)


**Siemens Mobility** is a separately managed company of Siemens AG. As a leader in transport solutions for more than 160 years, Siemens Mobility is constantly innovating its portfolio in its core areas of rolling stock, rail automation and electrification, turnkey systems, intelligent traffic systems as well as related services. With digitalization, Siemens Mobility is enabling mobility operators worldwide to make infrastructure intelligent, increase value sustainably over the entire lifecycle, enhance passenger experience and guarantee availability. In fiscal year 2020, which ended on September 30, 2020, Siemens Mobility posted revenue of €9.1 billion and had around 38,500 employees worldwide. Further information is available at: [www.siemens.com/mobility](http://www.siemens.com/mobility).