

# Press release

Utrecht, the Netherlands  
1 December 2014



## Selection of construction contractor and tram supplier Uithoflijn

**1 December 2014, the Executive Board of Greater Utrecht Authority of the Netherlands decided to award the contract for construction of the Uithoflijn tram infrastructure to Royal BAM Group and to award the contract for supplying the Uithoflijn trams to the Spanish supplier CAF. With this decision, the next step in realising the Uithoflijn will be the decision to become operational from mid-2018.**

The award decisions are the final steps needed for the two procurement procedures, ending an intensive preparation and procurement phase. If the Board of Greater Utrecht Authority agrees on the conclusion of the commitments the contracts between the parties can be signed on 23 December 2014, after the Alcatel period.

The construction scope entails the realization of the Uithoflijn tram infrastructure, including the superstructure and stops. The line will be 8 kilometers with 9 stops in total. The scope of the contract for supplying the Uithoflijn trams consists of 27 low-floor design trams with a length of approx. 32 meters each.

### The Uithoflijn programme

In 2011, construction started on parts of the substructure. These are now almost finished. The new construction contractor will use 2015 mainly for preparatory and engineering works and the new supplier for preproduction works. The start of construction works is expected for late 2015 or early 2016. The first trams will be delivered in January 2017, at the BRU depot in Nieuwegein. From then on, the process of testing and commissioning will start to make sure all systems are working and working together but also to train the new tram drivers and to test the timetable.

From mid-2018 passenger operations will start. The Uithoflijn will then run a 17 minute timetable between Utrecht Central Station and Park & Ride location at De Uithof. Total costs for the Uithoflijn are around € 440 million Euros.

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Not for publication:

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