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CAF PREFERRED BIDDER TO SUPPLY TRAINS FOR WALES AND BORDERS RAIL FRANCHISE

CAF has been selected as the preferred bidder by KeolisAmey to supply state-of-the-art diesel multiple units (DMU's) for the newly-awarded Wales and Borders rail franchise.

The announcement comes after KeolisAmey was awarded the contract by the Welsh Government to run the 15-year Wales and Borders rail franchise from October 2018.

CAF is in final negotiations with KeolisAmey to supply and maintain 44 two-car and 26 three-car units which will be in service by September 2022 and a further 7 two-car units to be delivered by September 2024. The high performance DMU's are based on the UK Civity platform, designed for commuter and regional services, featuring the latest safety technology combined with exacting interior design specifications for customer comfort, including air conditioning and wi-fi.

The units will be built at CAF's new facility at the Celtic Business Park site in Newport, South Wales, which is scheduled for completion in Autumn 2018.

Richard Garner, CAF's UK Director comments: "We are delighted to have been selected by KeolisAmey as the preferred bidder to supply trains for the Wales and Borders rail franchise. We look forward to working with KeolisAmey and playing our part in delivering its commitment to transform the railway and support the growth of the local economy in Newport and Wales. Our high-quality, reliable and comfortable trains will enhance customer experience across this important rail network."

Colin Lea, Mobilisation Director, KeolisAmey Wales Cymru, said: "We would like to thank CAF for working collaboratively with us to design trains, which, in line with KeolisAmey values, put the passenger needs at their heart, with state-of-the-art passenger features, ample legroom, and seats aligned with windows to enjoy the wonderful scenery of the routes they will serve." "These new trains, which will set a new standard of travel comfort and accessibility for the next decade, will be made for Wales and by Wales as they will be assembled in a new CAF factory in Newport, creating hundreds of new jobs."

Economy Secretary, Ken Skates said: "Our £5bn investment in the new rail service will deliver not only vastly improved train services but also very real job opportunities and economic benefits that will be felt in communities right across Wales.

"CAF's success as the preferred bidder to supply these diesel multiple units really is great news and will mean that that the majority of the new trains running in our transformed rail service will genuinely be 'Made in Wales' with the economic benefits of their production being retained and enjoyed locally."

The Newport facility is a fundamental part of CAF's plans to grow its business in the UK. The factory will create 300 new jobs and boost the wider UK rail industry supply chain as the company plans to develop a 'cluster' of local and national companies to supply components for the manufacture of its trains.

CAF is investing £30m to get the new factory up and running and will receive significant grant support from the Welsh Government's Inward Investment Programme.

Notes to Editors

For further information please contact vicky@nimblemedia.co.uk or call +44 (0)845 1 700 300. Nimble Media Ltd are contracted PR for Construcciones y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles (CAF) UK and Ireland.

About Construcciones y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles (CAF):

CAF, created in 1917, is a global manufacturer of specialist railway product, components and systems headquartered in Beasain, close to Bilbao, Spain. CAF Group has a net consolidated turnover of €439.22m for the first quarter of 2018 and an order backlog of €5.966bn as at March 2018.

CAF employs more than 8,000 people in the design, manufacture and maintenance of subsystems for the global rail market. It has production facilities throughout Spain and in France, Mexico, USA and Brazil.

Recent contracts include supplying 10 five-car units for Barcelona's metro network, 14 four-car and 12 two-car diesel units for West Midlands Trains, 15 three-car electric units to Auckland Transport in New Zealand, 12 trams for the transport network in Stockholm, Sweden, 30 units with two two-car LRVs for Manila Light Railway Transit Line-1 in the Philippine capital, 10 six-car metro units for Naples City Council, 18 seven-car URBOS-type trams to connect the five main cities on the Mauritius Metro Express and 21 five-car and five nine-car URBOS and low-floor type trams for the Hungarian capital, Budapest.

CAF is currently constructing a new factory in the UK at Newport, South Wales. This will be over 46,000 square metres in area and employ 200 people when it opens in autumn 2018, rising to 300 in 2019. It will be designed to enable CAF to build a range of trains including trams, suburban and metro trains and high-speed trains.