
Seville goes catenary free

THE Spanish city of Seville is to remove the catenary from its only light rail line because it interferes with religious processions through the streets - part of the 1.6km line runs alongside the cathedral. CAF, which supplied five LRVs to Seville, will install its rapid-charge accumulator (ACR) system on the line and in the vehicles (IRJ June 2009 p24).

Short sections of catenary

will remain at each stop to allow LRVs to be charged, which takes only 20 seconds. This will provide sufficient power to allow 600m of catenary-free operation between stops. Energy is also fully recovered during braking.

This is the first commercial application of ACR. However, about half of the light rail network being built in Zaragoza will be equipped with ACR.



THE first of 27 LRVs being supplied by CAF to Edinburgh was on show at BCN Rail. The 42.8m-long vehicles have a high-quality interior with leather seats, plenty of room for luggage as the 18.5km line will serve the airport, and a totally flat floor. Glass doors in the centre of the vehicle enable it to be split into two so that part of the vehicle can be shut off to passengers to improve security late at night.