

CAF signs Urbos tram contracts

INTERNATIONAL: Spanish rolling stock manufacturer CAF has won three export orders for its Urbos tram. Stockholm transport authority SL has initially ordered 15 three-section trams costing around €40m to augment the Tvarbanen fleet. With options to supply up to 121 vehicles, total contract value could rise to €340m. The bi-directional low-floor trams, with capacity for 221 passengers and a maximum speed of 90 km/h, will be designed to withstand Stockholm's severe winter weather.

In France, CAF has been selected in Besançon to supply between 15 and 18 three-section trams worth €35m for the 14.5 km light rail line under construction between Chalezeule and Hauts du Chazal. The bi-directional low-floor vehicles will be 23 m long and 2400 mm wide with capacity for 170 passengers, including 38 seated.

Nantes has ordered eight five-section trams with an option for a further four; the 37 m long trams have 60 seats and space for 248 standees.

Meanwhile, CAF has reached agreement with Houston Metropolitan Transit Authority to cancel an order for 29 light rail vehicles, which had been halted by the FTA over 'Buy America' procurement regulations. Houston Metro will now issue a new tender for 103 LRVs required for its LRT expansion programme. 