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## **Alstom signs two cooperation agreements for signalling and trams in Kazakhstan**

On 6 October 2009, Alstom CEO Patrick Kron signed two cooperation agreements covering production of turnout motors and supply of a tram system for Astana, Kazakhstan's capital city. These two agreements were signed in the framework of a Franco-Kazakh business forum held during President Sarkozy's visit to Kazakhstan.

First, in the area of signalling, the agreement Alstom entered into with the Chairman of Kazakh national railway operator Kazakhstan Temir Zholy (KTZ) provides for the set-up of an industrial cooperation for the supply of turnout motors. This agreement should lead to the creation of a joint venture for the local production of this equipment. The parties will jointly define the details for transfer of the production and assembly of these turnout motors to Kazakhstan.

To meet the needs of the region, Alstom offers a product adapted to local operating conditions – able to operate in temperatures as low as -40°C : two prototypes have been already installed in the Kazakh rail network for a testing phase during 12 months. This turnout motor features Alstom's latest technological advancements: reduced maintenance costs, a long operating life and a remote diagnostic system.

Patrick Kron also signed a memorandum of cooperation with the Mayor of Astana for the creation of a tramway for the Kazakh capital. This innovative project is part of the development plan the Kazakh state has launched for the new capital. The agreement provides for the creation of a project feasibility study covering public works and electromechanical aspects (supply of rolling stock, laying of track, installation of catenaries and electrification of the line including supply of all electric and mechanical systems and subsystems) for which Alstom will contribute its expertise to Astana, as well as long-term maintenance. Alstom's Citadis tram will be adapted to local climate constraints and equipped to operate in extreme temperatures.

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