

FREQUENTIS to implement first railway-specific bearer independent communication in Finland

In early June 2016, Frequentis received the award decision from the Finnish Transport Agency (FTA) to implement the first bearer independent communication solution for railway communication in Europe called URCA (Unified Railway Communication and Application). As a result of this implementation, Finnish railway users will be able to use TETRA and public mobile networks for all railway-specific communication functionalities in the future. The Go-Live is planned for 2017.

Having a clear vision about the bearer independent approach and enhanced capabilities URCA shall provide, FTA will utilise Frequentis' solution in order to improve operational- and cost-efficiency.

By using the Finnish authorities' telecommunications network (VIRVE, short for 'Viranomaisradioverkko') based on TETRA as well as public mobile networks, the Frequentis end-to-end solution will provide a whole new set of options.

“This enables reducing our communications costs significantly. We can concentrate on solutions and applications instead of spending time and money for renewal of our own radio network only for railway communication. We are confident to start this URCA project together with Frequentis based on their performance in previous projects to deliver such a solution at the standards we are accustomed to”, said Markku Voutilainen at FTA.

“We are proud to deliver this national rail voice and dispatch system based on our bearer independent architecture for Finnish railway users. To use public mobile networks in railway communications is an important element for the future and we appreciate the excellent collaboration with FTA to realise such a project”, added Thomas Karl, Director Public Transport at Frequentis.

About FREQUENTIS

Frequentis is an international supplier of communication and information systems for control centres with safety-critical tasks. These control centre solutions are developed and distributed by Frequentis in the business segments Air Traffic Management (civil and military air traffic control, and air defence) and Public Safety & Transport (police, fire and rescue services, emergency medical services, vessel traffic and railways). Frequentis maintains a worldwide network of subsidiaries and local representatives in more than fifty countries. The company's products and solutions are behind more than 25,000 operator positions in over 120 countries. With this extensive portfolio, Frequentis is the leading provider of voice communication systems... all making our world a safer place every day!

About Finnish Transport Agency (FTA)

The Finnish Transport Agency is an expert organisation responsible for Finland's roads, railways and waterways and for the overall development of Finland's transport system. It operates under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transport and Communications. FTA is responsible for the Finnish Railways infrastructure and the voice communication network is part of it. Currently Finnish Railways are using voice communication technology based on the GSM-R (Global System for Mobile Communications – Rail) network, which is in line with the CCS TSI (Control command and signalling) interoperability guidelines for the trans-European rail system of the European Commission. The Finnish national railway radio network is as well connected to the public telecommunications network, but not to GSM-R networks of other countries.

For more information, please visit www.frequentis.com

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