The Société de transport de Montréal relies on Thales to upgrade its metro network

Société de transport de Montréal (STM) has big ambitions to improve mobility for citizens by upgrading its metro network while replacing ageing equipment. STM has recently awarded Thales a contract to provide new computer based interlocking systems across all lines of the city’s underground rapid transit system.

The Montreal Metro is Canada’s busiest rapid transit system and North America’s third busiest in terms of daily ridership, with an average of 1.25 million passenger trips per weekday¹. To replace ageing trackside equipment and ensure service quality, STM will upgrade fixed equipment on the network and build a strategic new depot adjacent to Côte-Vertu station to keep pace with increased ridership. As part of this programme, STM will upgrade 16 computer-based interlocking systems at 15 stations across the entire rapid transit network.

The contract includes a firm order for the replacement of 8 systems, with an option on a further 8 systems for 15 existing stations and one new depot at Côte-Vertu station, which will enable STM to improve network

¹ According to the 2017 Q1 American Public transportation Association Ridership Report for Heavy Rail

Key points

- Société de transport de Montréal (STM) has awarded Thales a contract to upgrade computer-based interlocking systems on its metro network.
- The contract calls for 16 new systems at 15 stations and 1 depot.
- This first step will significantly improve STM’s existing infrastructure and supports future network developments.
operations by adding more trains at peak times.

STM is continually investing to increase network capacity and service frequency and in turn improve quality of life for citizens. The state-of-the-art interlocking systems from Thales offer operators the highest levels of performance and dependability and comply with the world's most stringent standards. The solution that will be installed at Montreal has been proven on projects around the world and is already in operation in numerous cities including Toronto, New York and Hyderabad. By choosing to work with Thales, STM is preparing the groundwork for any future development of its network, since the equipment supplied can readily accommodate new CBTC (communication-based train control) technology.

“...This contract further consolidates Thales’s local presence in Canada, especially in Quebec, where the company has recently invested in the CortAlx centre for research and technology in artificial intelligence, located in Montreal. The strong local presence in Quebec will ensure the long term support for STM, provider of essential public service to the citizens”

Dominique Gaiardo, VP in charge of Thales’s urban rail signalling business

About Thales
The people we rely on to make the world go round – they rely on Thales. They come to us with big ambitions: to make life better and to keep us safer. Combining a unique diversity of expertise, talents and cultures, our architects design and deliver extraordinary high-technology solutions. Solutions that make tomorrow possible, today. From the bottom of the oceans to the depths of space and cyberspace, we help our customers think smarter and act faster – mastering ever-greater complexity and every decisive moment along the way. With 65,000 employees in 56 countries, Thales reported sales of €15.8 billion in 2017.

About Thales in Canada
Thales employs 1,800 highly qualified people in Halifax, Quebec City, Montreal, Ottawa and Vancouver, working in Defence and Security, Aerospace and Transportation. Thales in Canada provides solutions for customers in the urban rail sector, civil aviation companies and defence and security agencies, with annual sales across these operations of more than $ 500 million (CAD).

In October 2017, Thales announced the creation of the Centre of Research and Technology in Artificial Intelligence eXpertise (cortAlx), which is located in Montreal, home to one of the world’s leading AI ecosystems.

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