

Škoda Groups's Award Winning ETCS to be deployed on New Hybrid Trains for RegioJet

Pizeň, June 29 – Škoda Group, a leading European manufacturer of zero-emission mobility solutions, has announced another significant milestone forward in the development of its in-house digital and signalling technologies. The European Train Control System (ETCS), developed by its Belgian affiliate The Signalling Company (TSC), will be deployed for the first time in 34 new Škoda Group trains—specifically hybrid BEDMU units for RegioJet, the second-largest train operator in the Czech Republic. The first deployment of this technology in newly manufactured vehicles contributes to optimizing the performance, safety and lifetime value of Škoda Group's trains.

“Since The Signalling Company became part of Škoda Group in 2023, its team has consistently demonstrated the ability to deliver on the ambitious goals that we set for them. The installation of their ETCS on our new hybrid trains for RegioJet represents the achievement of another important goal, confirming the readiness of their signalling platform for deployment on new rolling stock fleets,” said **Tomáš Ignačák, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Škoda Group.**

“Our goal from the very beginning was to rethink signalling technologies and deliver a solution that is modular, simpler, and scalable, with the ability to support multiple signalling and non signalling applications on a common safe computing platform. This project is another important step for us, demonstrating that our technology is competent for both ETCS retrofit projects like the one we are executing with Lineas in Belgium, and new-build projects like this one. We very much look forward to deepening our collaboration with Skoda Transport and driving further innovation and value for their rolling stock portfolio,” added **Alexandre Bétis, Managing Director of The Signalling Company.**

TSC's modular platform as an advanced solution for the deployment of ETCS and other national signalling systems

A Škoda Group affiliate since 2023, The Signalling Company began its journey in 2019 with the ambition to create the world's first fully software-defined signalling platform. In 2025, TSC's ETCS solution obtained full certification, confirming not only its technological maturity but also its readiness to deliver the highest levels of safety and reliability in rail transport.

The foundation for deploying TSC's ETCS is the universal digital rail platform iEVC-RailOS, which combines compact, modular onboard hardware with software applications. Its modular and scalable architecture enables simple, low cost upgrades, be they functional or driven by new regulations. Perhaps most importantly, this flexibility ensures continuous compliance with the ever-evolving ETCS standard, delivering tangible cost-benefits for fleet operators and lessors.



34 hybrid trains for RegioJet's interregional services in Northeast Bohemia

RegioJet has ordered a total of 34 new-generation hybrid BEDMU trains from Škoda Group—18 two-car units and 16 three-car units—under a contract exceeding CZK 9 billion. These are modern hybrid trains equipped with a diesel power unit, enabling extended operation on non-electrified lines while retaining the advantages of electric traction. In the future, the units can be converted to fully battery-powered or purely electric operation. They are scheduled to enter service from December 2029 on routes in Northeast Bohemia (R14A Pardubice–Liberec, R14B Liberec–Ústí nad Labem, R21 Prague–Tanvald, R22 Kolín–Rumburk, and R24 Prague–Rumburk). Their operation is expected to reduce emissions by up to 19,000 tonnes of CO₂ annually.

The ETCS technology from TSC, which will be part of the new trains, has already received significant international recognition. In March 2026, the company was awarded the RailTech Europe Innovation Award, reflecting its approach to developing cost-effective, reliable and scalable signalling solutions that respond to the current needs of the rail sector.

Editor's Notes

Škoda Group, a manufacturer of comprehensive public transport solutions, offers a portfolio of modern vehicles that comply with all European regulations and standards. With a history spanning more than 165 years, Škoda—direct successor to the engineering works founded by Count Waldstein in 1859—is a major European player in transport engineering. The Group manufactures a wide range of public transport vehicles and components, including low-floor trams, suburban train units, metro trains, electric buses and trolleybuses, as well as control and drive systems for transport solutions. Škoda Group employs 10,000 people across several production sites in the Czech Republic, Finland, and Turkey. It also operates business units in Germany, Italy, Austria, Belgium, Poland, Hungary, and Ukraine. In 2024, the company recorded revenues of EUR 1.36 billion and an EBITDA of EUR 62 million. Škoda Group is part of the PPF Group.

PPF Group, a privately held investment and industrial holding company, operates in 25 countries, investing in multiple sectors, including telecommunications, media, financial services, real estate, mechanical engineering, and e-commerce. The Group owns assets to the value of EUR 43.5 billion and employs 45,000 people globally (30 June 2025).

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