

**SYSTRA and STRADAL present Slab Track,
a low carbon new generation ballastless track,
at the InnoTrans 2022 trade fair**

Paris, September 13, 2022 - From September 20 to 23 at the InnoTrans trade fair in Berlin, SYSTRA, the global engineering group specialising in transport, and STRADAL, France's leading precast concrete company, will be exhibiting Slab Track, the new generation of low-carbon ballastless track that they have co-developed.

Many national or regional railway lines must be regenerated or renewed throughout Europe, but also more generally worldwide, in order to maintain their operational performance. These operations require significant investment from transport authorities and infrastructure managers. Several technical solutions are available to them: ballasted tracks, which make up the bulk of current rail networks, and conventional ballastless track techniques.

To meet this need, as well as the need to build new lines, while taking into consideration environmental issues, SYSTRA and STRADAL have co-developed a new generation of patented low carbon concrete ballastless track, Slab Track. This innovative solution, which is manufactured in France and unique in the world, offers numerous advantages in terms of design, installation, and maintenance. It offers a more advantageous financial profile than the technical solutions available on the market.

An innovative and sustainable design

Slab Track is designed for all railway lines, including high-speed lines, whether for passenger (High-speed/Regional/Intercity/Metro/Suburban) or freight transport.

It is the only ballastless track designed with a fully prefabricated low carbon reinforced concrete structure, with low environmental impact. Its track width is reduced (2.5 metres compared to 4 metres for a ballasted track) and no platform renovation is required prior to track installation.

In addition, the track geometry adjustment system, integrated into the structure, can compensate for track bed settlements of up to 100 millimetres. Conventional slab track technologies do not have this feature.

Slab Track is also a climate resilient and environmentally friendly solution. The 10-centimetre elevation of the track above the track bed allows water to pass through in the event of flooding, limits silting up of the tracks and allows the passage of small wildlife. Finally, Slab Track has the same permeability as a ballasted track, which avoids resizing existing hydraulic structures.

Easy and economical installation, reduced maintenance

Slab Track does not require any slab sealant and can be laid using existing equipment, including gantry cranes used in ballastless track laying and construction equipment, thus optimising the installation schedule and reducing energy consumption. The fastening systems and rails are those commonly used in ballastless track.

Slab Track requires very little maintenance compared to ballastless track, which ensures high track availability for operators. The track condition is monitored by sensors and connected objects.

Finally, this innovative ballastless track solution is particularly recommended for railway lines with high operating costs and for infrastructure managers experiencing difficulties with existing ballastless track systems.

Meet us at InnoTrans from 20 to 23 September at the SYSTRA stand, Hall 5-2

**A demonstrator will be present at InnoTrans at the STRADAL stand:
Outdoor booth O/115**

About SYSTRA

SYSTRA is one of the world's leading engineering and consultancy groups specialising in public transport and mobility solutions. For 65 years, the Group has been committed to helping cities and territories to contribute to their development by creating, improving, and modernising their transport infrastructures. With its 8,250 employees, the Group's mission is to make travel more fluid throughout the world in order to bring populations closer together and facilitate access to employment, education and leisure. Signature team for transport solutions, SYSTRA supports its partners and clients throughout the lifecycle of their projects.

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About STRADAL

STRADAL is a subsidiary of the world leading building materials group CRH. STRADAL is a French industrialist who has been a reference in the manufacture of prefabricated concrete products for nearly 100 years. It has more than 800 employees in France with a national industrial network close to local customers.

The company has more than 70 years of experience in the prefabrication of concrete solutions for railway infrastructure managers (high-speed lines, conventional and secondary rail network, metro, tram...) and urban mobility. Its industrial production capacity enables it to offer a wide range of solutions: monoblock and bi-block sleepers, level crossings, railway turnouts, tunnel segments, slot gutters etc. STRADAL is a member of the Federation of Railway Industries and of La French Fab.

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