Press release

10 January 2008

Canadian Court recognises Alstom's right to bid for the Montreal metro replacement contract

On 9 January 2008, the Quebec Superior Court gave a ruling which establishes the validity of Alstom's request to have the right to participate in an invitation to tender for the replacement of Montreal's fleet of metro cars.

Alstom takes note of the Court decision which enables the company to participate in a regular bid process.

On 28 June 2006, Alstom filed a lawsuit with the Quebec Superior Court to contest the approach taken by the Quebec Government in the project to renew Montreal's metro fleet.

The Quebec Government had announced on 11 May 2006 that it had requested the Société de Transport de Montreal (STM), Montreal's metro operator, to enter into exclusive negotiations, without competitive bids, with the Canadian manufacturer, Bombardier, to replace 336 rubber-tyred metro cars. The value of this contract was estimated at Canadian \$1,2 billion (€816 million).

This decision was based on the assertion that Bombardier was the "only metro car manufacturer in Canada". Alstom therefore decided to contest this decision by demonstrating that it was capable of supplying the requested equipment.

On this occasion, Alstom had recalled its attachment to the principle of an open market and free competition, by underlining that it was not acceptable for a manufacturer to participate in all European bids while benefiting from protection in its own domestic market.

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