

Finmeccanica and Russian Railways sign MoU to co-operate in rail transport

Finmeccanica and Russian state railways RZD have signed a memorandum of understanding to develop co-operation between the two groups in the field of rail equipment and technology. The agreement was signed in Rome by Finmeccanica chairman and chief executive Pier Francesco Guarguaglini and RZD chairman Vladimir Yakunin.

Finmeccanica and RZD, which also plan to undertake projects of common interest in other countries, are to create a working group to develop co-operation in the application of innovative technologies, including high-speed trains, rail transport control and safety systems, power supply units and telecommunications systems.

The two groups will jointly examine the possibilities of using Russian companies to produce units and components, including new aluminium sections of carriages, wagons, traction units and transducers, and more generally, all types of rolling stock. They will also explore co-operation in train control systems, based on European (ERTMS) and Russian (CLUB-U) safety standards.

Furthermore, they will look at new technical solutions for the introduction of a single safety system for Russian railways, using satellite and digital telecommunications technology.

Finmeccanica is Italy's leading high-tech company, operating in the design and manufacture of aerostructures, helicopters, satellites, space infrastructure, missiles and defence electronics. It plays a leading role in the European aerospace and defence industry, and participates in some of the biggest international programmes in the sector through well-established alliances with European and American partners. Finmeccanica also boasts significant manufacturing assets and skills in the transport, energy and IT sectors. The group is listed on the Milan stock exchange, and operates in Italy and abroad through 16 companies and 6 joint ventures. It employs around 51,000 staff in total. As part of its drive to maintain and build on its technological expertise, Finmeccanica spends the equivalent of over 16% of its revenues on research and development.