
Alstom takeover of Bombardier transportation: full transparency and guarantees required for all workers!

Joint declaration of the European trade unions at Alstom and Bombardier transportation

Brussels, 3 July 2020

Trade unions representing Alstom and Bombardier transportation [BT] workers in Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom warn against the many questions left open, four months after Alstom announced its plan to take over Bombardier transportation:

- What is the industrial rationale behind it? How can such a takeover support the long-term industrial growth of Alstom and BT, and, more broadly, of the European rail supply industry?
- What would be the consequences for the +55,000 European workers at Alstom and BT and their families? The European anti-trust authorities may require some assets and even sites to be divested (called “remedies”). Alstom has already announced an expected 400 million euros of synergies, without specifying how this would translate into restructuring.
- Why is the takeover project continuing unchanged, as though the economic and social crises linked to the COVID-19 pandemic were not happening? Yet, production halts, disruptions in the supply chain, and drops in demand are having an impact on both Alstom’s and BT’s financial and production capacities.

The level of concern amongst Alstom and BT workers is skyrocketing all across Europe. Trade unions cannot accept to be left in the dark, with no clarity nor guarantees as to the future of Alstom and BT jobs and sites.

The future of Alstom and BT rests solely on a forward-looking industrial strategy that not only fosters innovation capacities, but also job creation and high-quality jobs and ensures that companies thrive in the long-term. We cannot accept that the many questions about the industrial logic and sustainability of the current takeover plan remain unanswered.

European trade unions therefore urge Alstom and BT management to:

- ⇒ **Commit to sound guarantees to secure all jobs on all sites, in all countries**
- ⇒ **Provide a long-term industrial plan as to the future development of the two companies**
- ⇒ **Ensure a high quality social dialogue, with full information and consultation of workers’ and trade union representatives, including full transparency as to remedies and synergies**

Climate change, digitalisation, urbanisation, recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic: all those challenges call for a revised approach to mobility in which the European rail manufacturing industry must play a strategic part. Beyond the Alstom and Bombardier transportation case, Europe needs a strong rail supply industry.

European trade unions therefore urge the EU and Member States to:

- ⇒ **Swiftly deliver an ambitious European railway policy that provides long-term development perspectives for the rail supply industry, while ensuring a fair level playing field and promoting quality jobs in Europe.**

Committed to defending the future of Alstom and Bombardier transportation jobs and sites across Europe, European trade unions will pursue their coordination at national and European level in the coming weeks under the auspices of industriAll Europe and consider further trade union actions.