

Siemens Commissions Huyton to Roby Re-signalling Works

Following a nine day blockade, Siemens Rail Automation successfully commissioned the Huyton to Roby resignalling scheme at 03:08 on 14 July 2014, the first programme to be delivered under the new Network Rail Type 1 Framework Contract.

The work forms part of Network Rail's northern hub plan to deliver faster, more frequent services across the north and to improve capacity on the railway between Manchester and Liverpool. This work has increased the number of tracks at Huyton and Roby from two to three - enabling faster trains to overtake local stopping services and freight trains, allowing more passenger trains to travel on the line and improving connections between key towns and cities across the North West.

The scope of Siemens' work included the installation of the company's Trackguard WESTLOCK central interlocking processor and two trackside interface cubicles, as well as extensive infrastructure changes, which saw 10 filament signals converted to LED units, the renewal of 29 location cases and 23 signal structures (including the installation of new lightweight signals) and the provision of three new relocatable equipment buildings.

The programme also saw the installation of a Siemens Controlguide WESTCAD control system in the newly-constructed Manchester Rail Operating Centre, representing the first stage in the broader project to transfer all signalling control in the North West area to this centre, as well as substantial immunisation works as part of

the North West electrification programme.

Commenting on the works, Siemens' Project Director, Douglas Lee said: "A scheme of this scale and complexity would typically be delivered over an 18 month period; however given some challenging timescales, the combined Network Rail and Siemens project team delivered it in just eight months from contract award. This was only possible due to the extremely close and collaborative working relationship that existed within the wider project team and the tremendous efforts of everyone involved."

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Contact for journalists:

Siemens plc

Barry Pearson, tel: 07855 752 311

Email : barry@objectivecomms.co.uk

Emma Whitaker, tel: 079212 46942

Email: emma.whitaker@siemens.com

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Siemens Rail Automation (Berlin, Germany) is a business unit within the **Mobility and Logistics Division** and is a global leader in the design, supply, installation and commissioning of track-side and train-borne signalling and train control solutions. Its portfolio includes train control, interlocking systems, operations control systems, components, track vacancy detection, level-crossing protection, rail communications, and cargo automation for both passenger and freight rail operators. Siemens Rail Automation employs over 9,500 people across a network of offices worldwide. In the UK, 1,300 employees operate from offices in Chippenham, London, Croydon, Poole, Birmingham, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Manchester, York, Glasgow and Newport, delivering both mainline and mass transit programmes. For more information, visit www.siemens.com/rail-automation.