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Award

ETCS System Safety Assurance

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-003816

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-06077c

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Scope

Reference

ETCS System Safety Assurance

Description

The Safety Assurance supplier will be responsible to support obtaining necessary approvals to support delivery of works.

The safety assurance supplier will adhere to principles and standards in place according to the following:

Application of the Common Safety method for Risk Evaluation and Assessment (NR Standard NR/L2/RSE/100/02).

Commission Regulation (EU) 402/2013.

The Future works scope is a modification to the in-service ETCS system operating between Heathrow (Stage A) and Ealing Broadway (Stage TB2), with the safety assurance expected to build upon the existing works and documentation produced for

these stages.

Contract 1. ETCS System Safety Assurance

Supplier

- SYNERGY RAIL

Contract value

- £420,614.17 excluding VAT
- £504,737 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

29 January 2026

Contract dates (estimated)

- 2 February 2026 to 31 December 2026
- 10 months, 27 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 34632200 - Electrical signalling equipment for railways
- 45234115 - Railway signalling works
- 72225000 - System quality assurance assessment and review services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Other information

Description of risks to contract performance

Not Applicable

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Special regime

Utilities

Direct award justification

Additional or repeat goods, services or works - extension or partial replacement

The Western ETCS L2 project, commissioned in November 2023, represents the UK's first mainline deployment of ETCS Level 2. Synergy Rail was competitively appointed through all prior phases of the project since 2015 via the W&W Safety Assurance Framework (CP6), delivering end-to-end system assurance from GRIP 3 feasibility through to system commissioning and early post-commissioning support.

Key services provided included:

Development of the safety and acceptance strategy

Interoperability verification and regulatory support

Management of product acceptance processes.

Oversight of all V&V activities and testing phases

Completion of safety justifications for operational non-compliances Synergy Rail's contributions were highly commended by both FCCS SRP and ORR, with ORR explicitly recommending their methodology be used as a template for future ETCS deployments.

Justification

With the project now in a "post-commissioning enhancement and non-compliance resolution phase", continuity of system knowledge, safety case integrity and structure, and regulatory confidence are critical to the successful engagement with 4SP/FCCS-SRP and W&W -SRP and deployment.

Synergy Rail is uniquely qualified for the following reasons:

Unmatched technical familiarity with the deployed system, including contractors architecture, assurance processes, structure of the System Safety Case , Interoperability arguments, the Technical File and bespoke safety justifications used in deployment of the current ETCS L2 Solution.

End-to-end project involvement, eliminating the onboarding risks and delays of a new provider Demonstrated regulatory credibility, having delivered a model process acknowledged by the ORR and FSSC-SRP have engendered trust and confidence in submissions streamlining both time to resolution and reduced the “Pull” on critical limited Regulator and Panel member involvement.

Established relationships with Network Rail Engineering, Assurance Panel members and project teams

Appointing an alternative provider would likely increase final cost, delay critical updates, and undermine continuity of safety oversight and drive increased Panel engagement in submissions and assessment time. Therefore, a Direct Award is the most practical, economical, and low-risk procurement approach for the Industry as a whole.

Supplier

SYNERGY RAIL

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Region: UKI61 - Bromley

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. ETCS System Safety Assurance

Contracting authority

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNZN-9524-VCQJ

Waterloo General Office

London

SE1 8SW

United Kingdom

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Region: UKI45 - Lambeth

Organisation type: Public authority - central government