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Planning

Locomotive ETCS Fitment Framework

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

UK2: Preliminary market engagement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-056346

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0596a6 ([view related notices](#))

Published 12 September 2025, 4:35pm

Scope

Reference

SR42713

Description

Network Rail is introducing digital signalling, which will see traditional lineside signals removed and replaced with European Train Control Systems (ETCS) technology. The implementation will enable continuous, real-time information to the train driver's cab.

ETCS is an in-cab signalling system that enables trains to run closer together, safely and to travel at their optimal speeds. To implement ETCS, it requires changes to signalling infrastructure and fitment of in-cab technology on locomotives.

NR is intending to procure a framework to enable the design, supply, installation (fitment), test and put back into service of ETCS equipment fitted across a range of existing locomotive classes, including electric, diesel and steam across the Charter & Heritage and Freight sectors.

Network Rail has developed a proposed procurement approach which it now wishes to test with the supply chain to ensure it is both successful in procurement and in operation and therefore we seek the supply chains support in testing this proposed approach that we shall details in our Market Engagement launch and questionnaires thereafter.

Total value (estimated)

- £270,000,000 excluding VAT
- £324,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 15 May 2028 to 30 December 2043
- 15 years, 7 months, 16 days

Main procurement category

Works

CPV classifications

- 34630000 - Parts of railway or tramway locomotives or rolling stock; railways traffic-control equipment
- 34600000 - Railway and tramway locomotives and rolling stock and associated parts
- 34620000 - Rolling stock
- 34631000 - Parts of locomotives or rolling stock
- 45234115 - Railway signalling works

- 45316200 - Installation of signalling equipment

Engagement

Engagement deadline

12 December 2025

Engagement process description

Network Rail are launching an Early Market Engagement process as part of the development of the procurement approach to the LFF.

Responding to the notice is an excellent opportunity to engage with the programme, share relevant information and provide vital feedback to inform the procurement approach. Should your organisation wish to respond to this notice please follow the instructions below.

1. Supplier Engagement Event

NR intends to hold a virtual online supplier engagement session for registered parties in relation to the procurement of the Locomotive ETCS Fitment Framework (LFF) on the 2nd of October 2025, via Microsoft Teams.

NR sincerely wishes your organisation to attend this event and hear about this very exciting opportunity and the start of changing the UK Rail Industry for the future of ETCS.

This event will have a greater level of detailed information provided on our proposed approaches, and we encourage attendance therefore to help shape the requirements and contracting strategy. Our team will be on hand to ask all questions, and all supply chains are encouraged to attend (large or small) to understand how your organisation can become engaged and involved.

2. Market Sounding Questionnaire

Following the Supplier Engagement Day, Network Rail will invite all participants to provide feedback on key areas of consideration in the development of the strategy and thinking to

date, which will be captured via the Market Sounding Questionnaire (MSQ).

The MSQ will be issued to all interested parties by email to their nominated individual that have registered on BRAVO (JAGGER), following the Supplier Engagement Day.

Any clarifications or questions in respect of this market engagement should be directed to:

LFFPreMarketEngagement@networkrail.co.uk

NR shall run a full clarification mailbox throughout this whole market engagement process and where NO Unique Selling Points (USP's) or Intellectual Property Rights are disclosed then in these cases our responses and the original question may be shared with all potential participants. NR therefore request that should anything be considered a USP and IPR to your organisation that this is marked (CONFIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SENSITIVE) on the clarification or email at the very top of the clarification or email, so that NR can consider ensuring protection of the same.

Further Information:

For further information relating to the scope of this pre-market engagement, including how to register for the Supplier Engagement Event, please review the document titled "PME Locomotive Fitment Briefing Document" via the instructions below.

1. Follow the link

<https://networkrail.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.html>

2. From the welcome screen, access the "View Current Opportunities" link and select "Locomotive ETCS Fitment Framework ". (Login is not required).

3. Then follow the instructions in the "Responding to this Market Engagement" section of the attached document "PME Locomotive Fitment Briefing Document".

Contact Details:

Contact name: Chid Oriaku - Senior Procurement Manager

Email: LFFPreMarketEngagement@networkrail.co.uk

Website:

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/running-the-railway/our-routes/east-coast/east-coast-digital-programme/>

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

30 July 2026

Procedure

Special regime

Utilities

Contracting authority

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNZN-9524-VCQJ

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London

SE1 8SW

United Kingdom

Contact name: Chid Oriaku

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Website: <https://www.networkrail.co.uk/>

Region: UKI45 - Lambeth

Organisation type: Public authority - central government