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BADEN, SWITZERLAND, JUNE 29, 2022

# World's longest passenger train – ABB facilitates world record attempt

- The Swiss Rhaetian Railway (RhB) is launching its official attempt to run the world's longest passenger train on the UNESCO World Heritage Albula/Bernina line on Saturday, October 29, 2022
- ABB is one of the main partners in this world record attempt and is supporting the project with key drive, power generation and distribution technologies
- The partnership will demonstrate to a global audience the contribution electric rail transport makes towards a more sustainable future

Switzerland is celebrating the 175th anniversary of its railway system this year. As part of the celebrations, the Rhaetian Railway (RhB) is launching an official attempt to set the record for the world's longest passenger train on Saturday, October 29, 2022. The attempt comes at a time when the debate on the supply of energy is in the spotlight. ABB's energy-efficient technologies help customers become more sustainable and reduce emissions. Among other advances, renewable energy and electric rail transport play an important role. The world record attempt links these two key pillars of a sustainable society. ABB is lending its support to the project as a main partner.

World record attempt in sustainable mobility – including technologies from ABB

The partnership between ABB and RhB began over a century ago. As early as 1913, the company then known as BBC supplied the first locomotives for the Albula line and played an instrumental role in the later electrification of the Rhaetian Railway. "The world record attempt is a challenge for both people and machines and enables ABB to push the technological boundaries of sustainable mobility," says Edgar Keller, Managing Director Traction ABB. "We are delighted that our key technology is powering these trains, thus allowing us to offer rail transport a global stage as a key contributor to a sustainable future." ABB traction converters ensure energy-efficient operation of the world record-breaking train. They continuously control the traction motors with the required frequency and voltage and enable maximum braking energy to be fed back into the grid on the descent.

ABB technology contributes to efficient and safe operation not just inside the train, but also in the upstream energy chain. The Rhaetian Railway is taking vigorous steps to reduce its own ecological footprint. 100% of the energy the company uses is generated using local hydropower. The infrastructure required for this is equipped with key technologies from ABB. Drive and electrification solutions along with process control systems ensure a reliable, sustainable supply of electric power.

## World record

“The strong partnership with ABB in this world record attempt not only allows us to shine a spotlight on sustainable mobility, it also enables us to demonstrate the unique capabilities of our UNESCO World Heritage Albula/Bernina line to the world,” says Rhaetian Railway Director Dr. Renato Fasciati. The world’s longest passenger train is expected to travel through the famous spiral tunnels and continue on via the Landwasser Viaduct. During the ride, it will need to overcome a 789-meter change in altitude. The 1910-meter-long train with 100 cars features 25 of the latest “Capricorn” wing trains manufactured by Stadler. The aim is to have the world record attempt – assuming it is successful – entered into the Guinness Book of Records.

Further details on the world record:

<https://global.abb/topic/rhbworldrecord/en>

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For more information please contact:

Media Relations ABB Switzerland  
Phone: +41 58 585 00 00  
Email: [CH-media@abb.com](mailto:CH-media@abb.com)

ABB Schweiz AG  
Bruggerstrasse 66  
5400 Baden  
Switzerland