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## **Siemens wins major signals contract for Blackpool Tramway upgrade**

**Siemens Mobility, Traffic Solutions has been awarded a significant contract to provide design services, undertake junction upgrades and supply Extra Low Voltage (ELV) signals as part of the £100m upgrade to Blackpool's historic tram line.**

Siemens has been selected for the scheme by BAM Nuttall as preferred supplier for the main civil works contract. Endorsing the company's credentials on behalf of BAM Nuttall, Michael Grace, Project Manager, said: 'We have a strong working partnership with Siemens and every confidence in the company's design capabilities, technology and services'.

The upgrade project in full involves the replacement of eight kilometres of track, the reconstruction of a number of tram stops, the construction of a new £20m tram depot and maintenance facility, and the supply of 16 new generation trams for completion by Easter 2012.

Initially, Siemens will undertake design services work on approximately 16 junction upgrades from minor modifications to full renewals followed by the supply of the company's latest development, a dedicated ELV tram signal head, together with the installation of priority signals at highway junctions to improve journey times.

Owned by Blackpool Council, trams have been running in the town for over 100 years and the upgrade will mean the historic, world-famous tramway will continue to run well into the future as well as improve journey times and the accessibility of the tramway for all passengers.

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Leader of Blackpool Council Councillor Peter Callow said: 'By Easter 2012 we will have ultra modern trams providing an efficient public transport network for both residents and visitors without sacrificing our wonderful heritage trams.'

The new trams are expected to be a great boost to tourism and business, providing a link from Blackpool along the Fylde Coast into Lancashire to seafront attractions in Fleetwood and Thornton Cleveleys.

#### **About Siemens**

Siemens was established in the United Kingdom 166 years ago and now employs 18,402 people in the UK. Last year's revenues were £3.7 billion. As a leading global engineering and technology services company, Siemens provides innovative solutions to help tackle the world's major challenges, across the key sectors of energy, industry and healthcare. Siemens has offices and factories throughout the UK, with its headquarters in Frimley, Surrey. The company's global headquarters is in Munich, Germany. For more information, visit [www.siemens.co.uk](http://www.siemens.co.uk)

For more information, contact: Siemens Mobility, Traffic Solutions,

#### **Head of Communications**

Peter Preston  
Tel: +44 (0) 1202 782390  
Email: [peter.preston@siemens.com](mailto:peter.preston@siemens.com)

#### **PR Account Manager**

Julian Gollogly  
Tel: 07770 924441  
Email: [julian.gollogly@ntlworld.com](mailto:julian.gollogly@ntlworld.com)

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