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Ready for future tasks and regulatory requirements: Locomotive upgrades tailored to needs

Under the motto ‘Continuity. Reliability. Commitment.’, the European service network is presenting retrofit packages and upgrades for key future technologies in European freight transport at InnoTrans 2026. IMATEQ’s contribution to increased automation, greater safety and efficiency.

With the aim of improving and extending the service life of existing locomotives through necessary upgrades — such as ensuring futureproofing through digitalisation, for example via ETCS retrofitting, data integration and automation — IMATEQ will be presenting various retrofit packages at InnoTrans 2026. Customers can discuss specific timetables for locomotive modernisation strategy in order to make efficient use of upcoming maintenance periods. In addition to an extended service life, other benefits include the conservation of the asset value and availability performance.

Following regulation requirements, high demand is expected for ETCS Level 2 retrofitting and the digital automatic coupling (DAC), the phased implementation of which will take place in close cooperation with Vossloh Rolling Stock. In addition, upgrades of existing locomotives will be developed and offered with electric conversions for battery operation and the extension of the area of use.

Alternative second-source procurement currently being established

Another highly critical issue is the procurement and stock of spare parts. Due to significant changes in supply chains and extreme lead time, an alternative second-source procurement system is currently being established. At the same time, efforts are being made to conclude new framework agreements with shared risk assessment. This also includes issues relating to product obsolescence, which primarily affect electronic components. IMATEQ’s aim is always to increase the availability of existing rolling stock for all rail vehicle customers in Europe. After all, every journey made by environmentally friendly rail reduces the number of journeys made by other modes of transport and thus benefits future generations.

For further information, please visit us at our **stand O/330 in the South Outdoor Area**.

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IMATEQ

IMATEQ is a leading provider of maintenance, modernisation and lifecycle solutions for rail vehicles in Europe. As a European service organisation, IMATEQ combines comprehensive technical expertise with a consistent focus on customer needs to support operators throughout the entire lifecycle of their vehicle fleets. The range of services extends from preventive and corrective maintenance, through general overhauls and technical modernisation, to component services and digital solutions.

With a Europe-wide service network and mobile support services, IMATEQ serves freight and passenger transport companies, leasing firms, industrial companies with their own rail operations, and infrastructure operators. The aim is to sustainably increase the availability, reliability and cost-effectiveness of rail vehicles. Through innovative and forward-looking service concepts, IMATEQ supports its customers in making rail transport more efficient, safer and more sustainable.