

## Siemens pulls out of £1bn Crossrail bidding



The trains for Crossrail, still under construction, will run from east of Whitechapel to Paddington EFA/Crossrail

Robert Lea Industrial Editor  
Last updated at 1:14PM, July 5 2013

Siemens has quit the £1 billion competition to supply trains to Crossrail, London's new east-west train service.

In a move which has surprised the industry, the German company said it would be too busy to deliver the 600 carriages needed for Crossrail.

The exit of Siemens from the high-profile contract leaves three bidders: Bombardier of Canada, which would build the trains in the UK; Hitachi of Japan, which may manufacture the rolling stock in Britain; and Spain's CAF.

Siemens had been regarded as the favourite to win the contract as the rolling stock for Crossrail is expected to be of similar specification to that of Thameslink, the £1.6 billion train contract won by Siemens amid major controversy.

The trains for Crossrail will start running later this decade under the capital in tunnels from east of Whitechapel to Paddington, where they will pick up mainline rail tracks.

Thameslink is similar, connecting to the national network from high-frequency north-south services beneath London between Kings Cross-St Pancras and London Bridge.

The Thameslink train contract has only just been finally signed after three years of wrangling.

It was initially delayed by a major political row over why the contract had gone out of the UK when it could have been awarded to Bombardier, which would have built the trains in Derby. It was latterly delayed as Siemens struggled to put together the privately-financed portion of the package.

Siemens, which has separate Crossrail contracts delivering signalling and communications systems, said: "This is a strategic decision that has been taken based on current business activity levels. Crossrail is a very large project and since first undertaking our initial assessment of capacity and deliverability Siemens has won multiple additional orders.

"To pursue another project of this scale could impact our ability to deliver our current customer commitments — something we believe would not be a responsible course of action."

Crossrail, which is being delivered by Mayor Boris Johnson's Transport for London, appeared unfazed by Siemens' withdrawal. "The strong field of remaining bidders - Bombardier, CAF and Hitachi - are due to submit their bids next month with contract award by mid-2014," said a spokesman.

2 comments

livefyre

 Michael Daventry

13 people listening

+ Follow	Post comment

Newest | Oldest | Most Recommended



**Vernon de Silva**

1 hour ago

is it not ironic, that whoever did the diligence to work out if Siemens could deliver the trains, clearly fluffed it. And Bombardier, needed the work.

Now siemens cannot bid for the work because they are too busy.

hmmm ... I wonder

[Recommend](#) [Reply](#)



**Gordon Bennett**

29 minutes ago

**@Vernon de Silva** Rather than some conspiracy, which I assume is what you're suggesting, it's more likely that all this faffing about has meant that the order has missed its 'slot'.

[Recommend](#) [Reply](#)

Livefyre

© Times Newspapers Limited 2013 | Version 4.6.0.0(86651)

Registered in England No. 894646 Registered office:

3 Thomas More Square, London, E98 1XY

[My Account](#) | [RSS](#) | [Classified advertising](#) | [Display advertising](#) | [The Times Whisky Club](#) | [Encounters Dating](#) | [Sunday Times Wine Club](#) | [Privacy & Cookie Policy](#) | [Syndication](#) | [Site Map](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Terms & Conditions](#) | [Contact us](#) | [iPhone](#) | [Android smartphone](#) | [Blackberry](#) | [Windows phone](#) | [Android tablet](#) | [Kindle](#) | [Kindle Fire](#) | [Place an announcement in The Times](#) | [The Times Bookshop](#)