

## Ab Ovo closes framework agreement with National Express Group

**Capelle a/d IJssel, The Netherlands, 5th May 2006 – IT-service provider Ab Ovo has recently reinforced its European position in the rail sector by closing a framework agreement with the National Express Group, a large international company in the public transport sector.**

With over one billion passengers traveling on its services annually, the National Express Group is one of the most authoritative companies in this sector. The company operates across the UK, North America and Spain. Ab Ovo has built up an excellent track record in the rail sector with companies such as Railion Netherlands, Denmark and Germany, Deutsche Bahn Reise & Touristik, ProRail, EVR (Estonian Railways) and EWS (English, Welsh & Scottish Railways). Ab Ovo supports the rail sector with, amongst other things, building and implementing front- and back office applications and applications in the area of resource planning and optimisation.

As part of the framework agreement Ab Ovo has recently started work on a project for 'one' Railway, one of the largest train operators in the east of England and a 100% subsidiary of the National Express Group. Ab Ovo's job is to implement an Enterprise Asset Management system and integrate this with the existing financial and production systems, so stock can be used more efficiently, availability will be increased and all registration demands in the area of safety are met. This implementation must also lead to a reduction in costs in the maintenance process.

"We are now in the first phase in which existing maintenance processes are analysed," says Ronald van Doorn, Business Unit Manager Transport, Travel and Logistics of Ab Ovo. In order to achieve the goals mentioned above the partner software product Datastream 7i Extended is used. Datastream is a well known partner in the rail sector with references such as London One Rail, Porterbrooke trains, Rumanian Railways, Trenitalia and much more. The software package of Datastream delivers Enterprise Asset Management (EAM)- functionality with a high level of flexibility in programming. Van Doorn expects to have completed the project in the first depot this summer.

### **About National Express Group and 'one' Railway**

The National Express Group is a market leader in the public transport sector and is mainly active in the UK, North America and Spain. The company employs approximately 43.000 people. The National Express Group operates six British railway franchises including 'one' Railway. Look for more information at [www.nationalexpressgroup.com](http://www.nationalexpressgroup.com) or at [www.onerailway.co.uk](http://www.onerailway.co.uk).

### **About Ab Ovo**

Ab Ovo is an independent and fast growing IT-service provider with powerful propositions, as it combines a profound knowledge of ICT with longstanding management experience and expertise

in corporate processes. For years Ab Ovo has supplied advice, project management, interim management and specific ICT solutions for Transport & Logistics all over Northwest Europe. Recently, Ab Ovo has spread its wings even further, by entering into the world of industry, finance and various state-run institutions.

The name of the firm is inspired by the Latin expression: "Ab ovo usque ad mala", which the Romans used to indicate a complete meal. From start to finish, from entrée (egg) to dessert (apple). That is Ab Ovo's corporate strategy: to be involved in a project from the beginning, and to take care of it all the way to successful completion. The company motto: "With our help, it can be done".

Among its clients are companies and state institutions such as KLM, Schiphol, Achmea, INHOLLAND University, the Dutch ministries of Housing and Internal Affairs, and several European railway companies.

More information for the press:

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