

IN FOCUS

■ RAILWAY
TECHNOLOGYAsset management system
for a major project in Canada

City of the Future - Toronto

Photo: pixabay

From 2024 onwards, the Canadian large-scale project carried out by the multinational consortium ONxpress Transportation Partners for its customers Metrolinx and Infrastructure Ontario will rely on the asset management system of the German software company ZEDAS.

■ Around seven million people currently live in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. In 2041, there will be more than twelve million. This will also increase the demand for transport by more than 50 per cent. Today, a major part of the currently operated transport network (GO Transit) is already overloaded. The expansion of the route network by 205 kilometres and a higher frequency of trains are intended to provide a remedy – in a cost-conscious manner and combined with better passenger comfort.

International project partners

The mass transit operator Metrolinx and Infrastructure Ontario commissioned ONxpress to implement the project in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA). ONxpress is a multinational consortium consisting of Aecon, Alstom, DB

International Operations (part of the E.C.O Group) and FCC Construcción. ONxpress brought the German software company ZEDAS on board to provide the asset management. After a two-year development phase, ZEDAS is to implement its asset management system zedas[®]asset from 2024. It will digitalise and automate maintenance processes in the fields of rolling stock and rail infrastructure. This should reduce maintenance costs while also ensuring the reliability and safety of the assets.

Metrolinx and Infrastructure are providing billions of dollars in funding for the transformation through electrification, more frequent services (15-minute intervals), shorter journey times and a modernised system of the GO regional rail network in the Greater Toronto Area and Hamilton.

ONxpress Transportation Partners is ZEDAS' second Canadian customer

for its rolling stock and infrastructure asset management system. "North America is looking to this flagship project. Our standard zedas[®]asset software will support the efficient asset management of rail vehicles and rail infrastructure in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area with its total 2,000 users. In the course of the project, we intend to significantly expand our presence on the North American rail market," says Wolfgang Jahn, Managing Director of ZEDAS GmbH.

ONxpress opted for the software solution of the Senftenberg-based software provider after a multi-stage selection process. Its many years of experience in the market and its railway know-how were key factors in the decision, as were its special offers for mobile working, the mapping of railway-specific assets and good interface connections to external systems.