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ALSTOM becomes the first railway manufacturer to receive IRIS certification (for its *Ornans* site)

IRIS (the International Railway Industry Standard) is a new supplier evaluation system unique to the railway industry and is globally recognized. By applying the IRIS Standards, equipment manufacturers adjust their quality standards to match the requirements of integrators who are members of the UNIFE (Union of European Railway Industries) - to which ALSTOM belongs. IRIS deployment commenced on May 18, 2006.

ALSTOM suppliers must progressively implement this reference standard. Moreover, ALSTOM has decided to apply the IRIS Standard to its own production facilities as from 2006. The first facility to be selected is the *Ornans* site in the *Doubs* department where traction and auxiliary motors and alternators for all types of railway rolling stock are designed and developed. The facility employs 460 staff and manages more than 10 projects simultaneously (including motors for trams and the Eastern TGV (high-speed train) network). More than 250 questions were asked by the auditors and had to be answered to obtain certification.

In the coming months, the *Le Creusot* and *Tarbes* plants will be the next ALSTOM facilities to seek IRIS certification - which can be simultaneously granted with ISO 9001 certification on completion of a single audit.

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