

## Press Release

21 October 2004

### Serco-NedRailways appoint Managing Director for Northern Rail



Serco-NedRailways, has today announced the appointment of Heidi Mottram to the position of Managing Director for its recently awarded Northern Rail franchise.

The new Northern Rail franchise is scheduled to start on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2004 and covers the operation of railway services for the north-west and north-east of England with a network that covers more than 1,600 miles.

Heidi is currently Commercial Director for ARRIVA Trains Northern and has held a number of positions within train operating companies including Operations Director with Midland Mainline.

Commenting on her appointment Heidi said: "I am delighted to be appointed to the Northern Rail team and look forward to the many exciting challenges ahead."

Prior to taking up her full duties as Managing Director of Northern Rail on 12<sup>th</sup> December Heidi will be seconded from ARRIVA Trains Northern and will therefore join the Serco-NedRailways transition team from 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Andrew Smith, CEO of Serco Integrated Transport said: "Heidi has shown that she has the experience and ability to make a fundamental difference to rail service performance", Anton Valk, for NedRailways added: "we are delighted that Heidi will be joining us. This appointment is particularly valuable as we build a team to deliver a regional rail network the North can be proud of."

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**Notes to Editors**

The Northern franchise draws together the regional networks currently provided by First North Western and ARRIVA Trains Northern under one operator for the first time since privatisation of Britain's railways. It is described by the Strategic Rail Authority (SRA) as being one of the first of a new generation of customer-focused franchises.

The franchise covers the operation of the railway services for the north-west, Yorkshire, Humberside and the north-east of England and contains 472 stations with over 4500 staff. With a network which stretches more than 1,600 miles it is one of the longest in Britain, serving a number of major cities including Manchester, Leeds, Newcastle and Sunderland, as well as providing direct access to three National parks: the Peak District, Yorkshire Dales and North Yorkshire Moors.

Serco-NedRailways is a 50-50 joint venture arrangement between Serco Group plc and NedRailways BV.

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NedRailways is a 100% subsidiary of NS, the major rail operator in the Netherlands with experience in running high density urban networks with an intensity of use greater than that in the UK. On a daily basis, the company operates 5,000 trains carrying 1 million passengers from an end-to-end journey approach.