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Press Release from AFRY

## AFRY selected to design the Rail Nordica railway project in Finland as part of a consortium

**The Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency has selected a design consortium, in which AFRY is one of two parties, for a project aimed at connecting Finland's rail network with the Northern European rail infrastructure.**

AFRY will, as part of a consortium, be responsible for the administrative planning of the railway connection and related infrastructure, as well as permitting processes and geotechnical investigations.

The objective of the Rail Nordica project is not only to strengthen Finland's rail connections westwards but also to ensure smooth cross-border transport chains. The assignment includes planning of a new cross-border railway connection in northern Finland, linking to Sweden and the wider European network.

The development phase is now starting, during which the consortium will work with the Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency to define the detailed scope and schedule of the design work.

The connections will be designed using the European standard gauge, which is used in Sweden and is narrower than Finland's current track gauge. Therefore, a new track with European standard gauge will be planned alongside the existing tracks in the project area.

"We are proud to be involved in designing the historically significant Rail Nordica railway project and in strengthening Finland's fixed connections to the Western Europe in close collaboration with the Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency," says Mikko Inkala, Head of Road and Rail Finland at AFRY.

Once completed, the railway will improve Finland's security of supply and enhance the operating conditions for businesses. In the state budget, EUR 20 million has been allocated for the planning of Rail Nordica, of which EUR 18 million has been earmarked for this procurement. Order value for AFRY is approximately EUR 9 million. The design work is planned to be completed by 2030.

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