Siemens builds eHighway in Germany

- First infrastructure for electric trucks on a German autobahn
- Sustainable freight transport by cutting energy consumption in half
- Commissioning at end of 2018

Siemens has been commissioned by the German state of Hesse to build an overhead contact line for electrified freight transport on a ten-kilometer stretch of autobahn. The line will supply electricity for the electric drive of a hybrid truck. Siemens originally presented its innovative “eHighway” concept in 2012. The system will be installed on the A5 federal autobahn between the Zeppelinheim/Cargo City Süd interchange at the Frankfurt Airport and the Darmstadt/Weiterstadt interchange.

With this field trial, the eHighway will be tested on a public highway in Germany for the first time. Siemens will be responsible for the planning, construction and, as an option, maintenance of the system. The system is being built as part of the joint project “Electrified, innovative heavy freight transport on autobahns” (ELISA) of Germany’s Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB). Hessen Mobil, responsible for road and transport management in Hesse, is managing the project.

“Construction of the system will demonstrate the feasibility of integrating overhead contact systems with a public highway. The system will be used for real transport networks, and prove the practicality of climate-neutral freight transport in the urban region of Frankfurt,” said Gerd Riegelhuth, Head of Transport of Hessen Mobil.

“With the eHighway, we’ve created an economically viable solution for climate-neutral freight transport by road. Our technology is an already existing and feasible alternative to trucks operating with internal combustion engines,” says Roland Edel,
Chief Technology Officer of the Mobility Division.
The eHighway is twice as efficient compared to internal combustion engines. That
not only means cutting energy consumption in half, but also significantly reducing
local air pollution. The core element of the system is an intelligent pantograph on the
trucks combined with a hybrid drive system. Trucks equipped with the system
operate locally emission-free with electricity from the overhead line and
automatically switch to a hybrid engine on roads without overhead lines.

This press release and other material are available at:
www.siemens.com/press/ehighway

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innovation, quality, reliability and internationality for more than 165 years. The company is active in more than
200 countries, focusing on the areas of electrification, automation and digitalization. One of the world’s largest
producers of energy-efficient, resource-saving technologies, Siemens is a leading supplier of efficient power
generation and power transmission solutions and a pioneer in infrastructure solutions as well as automation, drive
and software solutions for industry. The company is also a leading provider of medical imaging equipment – such as
computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging systems – and a leader in laboratory diagnostics as well as
clinical IT. In fiscal 2016, which ended on September 30, 2016, Siemens generated revenue of €79.6 billion and net
income of €5.6 billion. At the end of September 2016, the company had around 351,000 employees worldwide.
Further information is available on the Internet at www.siemens.com.