Detroit’s M-1 RAIL Traveling Off-Wire with Liberty Modern Streetcars

Detroit-based M-1 RAIL and BROOKVILLE agreed to terms on June 5, 2015 for the supply of six off-wire capable Liberty Modern Streetcars for the 3.3-mile Woodward Avenue line, set for delivery to begin in the fourth quarter of 2016, with a contract valued at $32 million.

The M-1 RAIL Liberty Modern Streetcars will travel without the aid of an overhead catenary system (OCS) for 60 percent of the 3.3 mile corridor. While operating off-wire, the streetcars will instead draw power from the vehicles’ onboard energy storage systems (OESS), which utilize 750-volt rechargeable lithium-ion batteries. In addition, the M-1 RAIL streetcars will access the vehicle maintenance facility without the use of OCS via a one-tenth of a mile of additional track.

“Selection of BROOKVILLE provides M-1 RAIL with a company that has experience constructing streetcars that best meet this project’s technological requirements and timeline,” said Paul Childs, chief operating officer for M-1 RAIL, in a release issued by the organization on June 8. “We are pleased to reach agreement with BROOKVILLE, a streetcar manufacturer that specializes in the advanced off-wire technology that will make our system a leader in this technology.”

The M-1 RAIL Liberty Modern Streetcars will measure 66.5 feet-long and include over 70 percent low-floor area, with seating for up to 32 passengers and an average of up to 125 total passengers. Running on standard 56.5-inch track gauge, the vehicles will utilize BROOKVILLE’s industry proven soft-ride trucks and be powered by four 99kW AC traction motors while travelling at speeds of up to 35 mph.

The agreement marks BROOKVILLE’s second order for its off-wire capable Liberty Modern Streetcars, after shipping two vehicles to the City of Dallas and Dallas Area Rapid Transit in the first half of 2015. A key difference between the M-1 RAIL vehicles and the Liberty Modern Streetcars in Dallas will be a wider car-body, measuring 8 feet, 8 inches, compared to 8 feet for the Dallas vehicles.

M-1 RAIL is a public-private venture that marks the first major transit project led and funded through collaboration between private businesses and philanthropic organizations working in partnership from the public sector, including local government, the State of Michigan and the US Department of Transportation (DOT). In 2014, the project received a $12.2 Million Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant from the USDOT.

Read the full release at brookvillecorp.com.
The President’s Corner

By Marion Van Fosson

While I hailed our staff’s abilities in the Spring for completing key deliveries in our mining, tunneling, streetcar, and locomotive business units, I must now congratulate them on their continued achievements providing us the opportunity to bring in new orders.

We are eager to continue our partnership with the City of Dallas and Dallas Area Rapid Transit by adding two more streetcars to their current fleet next year, as they continue to expand their system. In addition, the timely delivery of the first two Dallas streetcars earlier this year was paramount in securing an order for six Liberty Modern Streetcars with an onboard energy storage system (OESS) for M-1 RAIL in Detroit. We are eager to aid this great American city with an American-made streetcar solution as they continue to revitalize their urban core.

But as we celebrate these exciting new streetcar orders, we must remain focused on our goal of delivering the best products in every industry we serve in a timely manner. This summer we’ve been reorganizing our manufacturing space to better meet the needs of these upcoming projects and hit our target delivery dates more efficiently than ever before.

In addition, we have added several new key members to our team over the summer, including Dustin Werner, who will serve as Vice President of Engineering. I wish to welcome all new hires aboard the BROOKVILLE team and hope that you will find your work both challenging and rewarding.

Overall, 2015 has been an exciting and transitional year. We have been afforded wonderful opportunities to continue to expand and evolve our streetcar portfolio, while also remaining dedicated to better serving the needs of our locomotive, mining and tunneling customers through our innovations and the collaborative solutions-driven approach they have come to expect from BROOKVILLE. We look forward to continuing that legacy throughout the remainder of this year, into 2016, and beyond.

Product Portfolio

Self-Propelled Microduster

In July 2015, BROOKVILLE shipped two powered five-man diesel personnel carriers featuring a hydraulically driven microduster with a 1500 lb. containment tank for limestone dust. The mobilized dusting solution can be utilized to transport small crews while also providing miners with the flexibility to cover small coal seam exposures underground.

Upcoming Events

Railway Interchange 2015
October 4-6, 2015
Minneapolis, MN
Booth #3058

SME Annual Conference & Expo
February 21-24, 2016
Phoenix, AZ
Booth #1208

Rail~Volution 2015
October 25-28, 2015
Dallas, TX
Booth #1

MINExpo 2016
September 26-28, 2016
Las Vegas, NV
Booth #6042

Want additional details on the Liberty Modern Streetcars for M-1 RAIL? Read the full story in the Detroit Free-Press.
The City of Dallas and Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) exercised an option on Thursday, July 9, 2015, for the delivery of two additional off-wire capable Liberty Modern Streetcars – extending a partnership with BROOKVILLE that began with a March 2013 contract for two identical vehicles, delivered in the first half of 2015.

With the two delivered Liberty Modern Streetcars currently providing service along a 1.6-mile starter line between Dallas’ downtown Union Station and the Oak Cliff neighborhood, the additional two streetcars – both options exercised on the original contract – will upgrade the Dallas fleet to a total of four vehicles and add capacity for the forthcoming expansion to Oak Cliff’s Bishop Arts District, which is currently under construction.

“The BROOKVILLE team is eager to continue to work in conjunction with the City of Dallas and DART with the delivery of two additional Liberty Modern Streetcars,” said BROOKVILLE President Marion Van Fosson. “This partnership is a shining example of how American manufacturers can collaborate with American cities and public entities to provide sustainable jobs across the country while spurring domestic innovation.”

The two Dallas streetcars, which will be identical in size and feature the same service proven systems as the initial vehicles, are scheduled to start delivering Summer 2016.

“The customer and community response to the streetcar has been great,” said DART President and Executive Director Gary Thomas. “We are looking forward to extending it and working with BROOKVILLE to help our communities grow with great transit choices.”

ABOVE: A BROOKVILLE Liberty Modern Streetcar crosses the Houston Street Viaduct without the aid of overhead wire in July of 2015. The Liberty Modern Streetcar uses a lithium ion battery energy storage system to complete the one-mile run. Dallas exercised an option in July for two additional streetcars, with delivery scheduled to start next summer.
The BROOKVILLE Type D Utility Car featured a standard V8 Ford engine mated with a BROOKVILLE Type C transmission, offering reverse in four speeds and at a rate of up to 40 mph. BROOKVILLE built multiple versions of the Type D, with frame lengths ranging from 12 ft to 22 ft.

The multipurpose vehicle included a rear drive axle and front two-axle pony truck and offered rail operators folding seats that could convert to provide bed space for material and commodity loads or positioned to transport rail crews. Gauge variations ranged from 24 in to standard gauge (56.5 in).
Decade Awards

In April, BROOKVILLE held a company-wide luncheon to honor ten employees for their first, second or fourth decade of service to the organization with a certificate and a cash award. Pictured above (left to right) are Emmit Dunham (40 years), Adam Kemmer (20 years), Dave Joiner (40 years), Chad Shaffer (20 years), Ben Aaron (10 years), Jason Jeffries (10 years), Cameron Miller (10 years), Joe Wolfe (20 years), Mike Anderson (20 years). Barry Myers (10 years), pictured to the left, received the award on the evening shift.

BROOKVILLE Welcomes Dustin Werner, Vice President of Engineering

BROOKVILLE welcomed Dustin Werner, Vice President of Engineering, to its executive team in August. In this new role for Dustin and the company, he will oversee all engineering and design operations within the organization.

Dustin brings over twenty years of experience with him, previously serving operations management, project management, and industrial engineering roles in a variety of industries. He holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and an MBA from Ashland University.

A Pennsylvania native, Dustin will be relocating from Houston, Texas with his wife Paula.

“I am very happy to be back in Pennsylvania and part of an organization that has a great history and optimistic future,” Werner said. “I look forward to contributing to an already successful team and assisting with exceeding all goals.”

Career Opportunities

Looking for a new and exciting career challenge in the mining, tunneling, rail, or mass transit industries? BROOKVILLE is actively seeking experienced, technically skilled employees to join our team and help move our product line to the next level. Click to Learn More and Apply!

BELIEVE IN A BROOKVILLE

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