

★ 60163 *Tornado* ★ 60163 *Tornado* ★ 60163 *Tornado* ★

# THE *A1* STEAM LOCOMOTIVE TRUST

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## PRESS INFORMATION – PRESS INFORMATION - PRESS INFORMATION

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### **LAST MAJOR HURDLE OVERCOME AS BOILER ORDERED FOR NEW STEAM LOCOMOTIVE**

*Future of mainline steam secure as boiler for 60163 Tornado to be  
completed in June 2006*

The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, the registered charity that is building the first new mainline steam locomotive in Britain for over 40 years, today announced that it had ordered the boiler for No. 60163 *Tornado*. The contract is with Dampfloswerk Meiningen (Steam Locomotive Works Meiningen), a workshop of the Deutsche Bahn (the German Federal Railway), through its subsidiary DB Fahrzeuginstandhaltung GmbH (DB Rolling Stock Maintenance Company), and follows on from an initial order for the redesign of the original LNER Diagram 118 boiler for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This order comes as the culmination of over three years of exhaustive discussions with a number of possible suppliers in the UK and continental Europe as well as with the authorities on certification and quality matters. The boiler is due to be completed in June 2006.

The A1 Trust is building Peppercorn Class A1 Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* at its Darlington Locomotive Works and when complete it will be used on charter trains operating on Network Rail. Significant progress has been made on the construction of *Tornado*, with £1.3m raised to-date through deeds of covenant and commercial sponsorship and through a bond issue. In order that work can continue on other parts of *Tornado* whilst the boiler is being constructed, the Trust needs to raise the remaining £220k of its £500k bond issue.

Mark Allatt, chairman of The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust commented:

“This announcement is tremendous news for *Tornado* and the future of mainline steam in Britain. The boiler is the single most expensive component of *Tornado* left to manufacture and this order marks the overcoming of the last major engineering hurdle in the construction programme and one for which our many supporters have been awaiting for some time. The first contract issued was to redesign the original Diagram 118 boiler to incorporate modern materials, welded construction and a steel rather than copper firebox. This is expected to be completed August 2005 with construction of the boiler commencing in October 2005.

More follows...

“With the boiler ordered, it is now a matter of when, not if, *Tornado* will be completed – and the achievement of our November 2007 target is simply down to how much money we can raise. We are now looking to railway enthusiasts throughout the country to help us complete *Tornado* through taking part in our covenant scheme and/or our £500,000 bond issue, which is well over 50% subscribed. It’s time those who have been waiting for final proof that this project WILL succeed to help us to finish the job – there are no more excuses left!”

Herr Jürgen Eichhorn, Works Manager, Dampfloswerk Meiningen, commented:

“After over three years of negotiation we are delighted and feel very honoured to have received the order for *Tornado*’s boiler from The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust. We feel this might be a significant step into the British market which we consider to be most important for us in the future. We are all looking forward to a pleasant business relationship.”

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