

Eurostar orders first double-decker trains

Eurostar, the cross-channel rail operator, has placed a €2bn order from manufacturer **Alstom**, with plans to run double-decker high-speed trains through the Channel Tunnel for the first time

Artist's impression of Eurostar "Celestia"

Order: 30 trains, with option for 20 more, eventually increasing size of Eurostar's fleet by nearly one third

CELESTIA

- **Family name:** Avelia Horizon
- **Length:** 200m
- **Max speed:** 320km/h
- **Capacity:** 540 seats or 1,080 in two-train formation – 20% more than biggest existing trains
- **First services:** 2031

- **Height:** 4.33 metres – just 16cm higher than current **E320** model



EUROSTAR ROUTES

Eurostar recently announced expansion plan that includes new routes to Geneva and Frankfurt from London

COMPETITION

Emerging competitors to Eurostar on cross-channel high-speed routes include Spanish start-up **Evolyn**, **Richard Branson's Virgin Group**, and new partnership between **Gemini Trains** and **Uber**

