

**Zeitschrift:** Swiss express : the Swiss Railways Society journal  
**Herausgeber:** Swiss Railways Society  
**Band:** 2 (1988-1990)  
**Heft:** 2

**Artikel:** Re 4/4 V converter locomotive for the Zurich district railway  
**Autor:** S.L.M.  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-855286>

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 01.08.2025

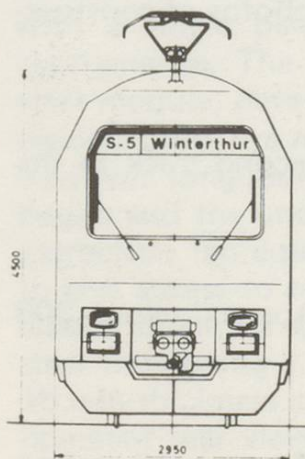
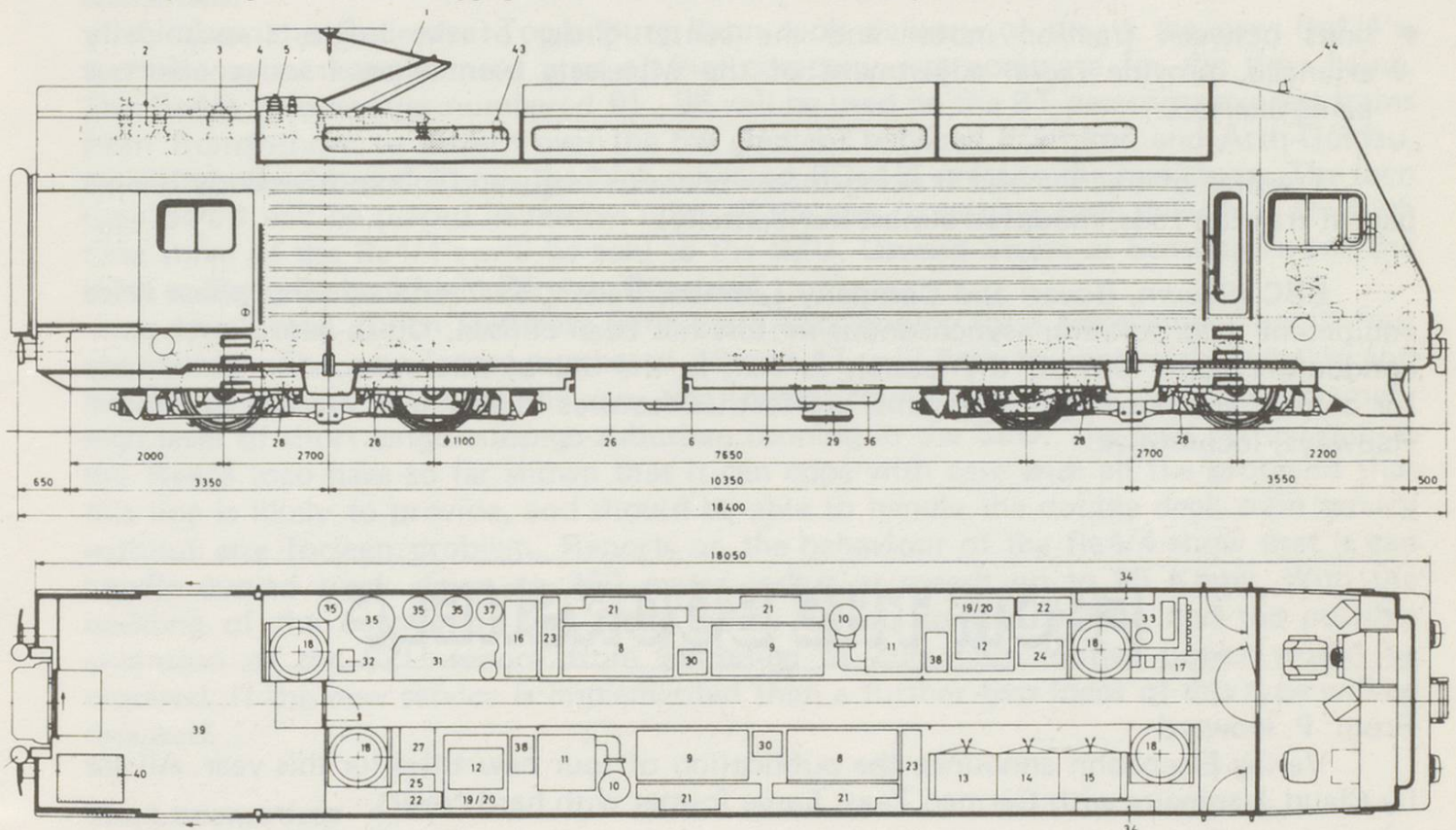
**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

# Re 4/4 V CONVERTER LOCOMOTIVE FOR THE ZURICH DISTRICT RAILWAY

By S.L.M. Winterthur

A Re 4/4 V locomotive, two double-deck coaches (types B and AB respectively) and a driving trailer of type Bt form a basic train unit having a length of about 100 m. Both ends of the unit are equipped with automatic couplings, so that simple and rapid coupling with a second or third train unit is possible.

The Re 4/4 V locomotive has only one driver's cab. Its layout is ergonomically suitable for both sitting and standing operation. Optimum working conditions, including air conditioning, are provided for the driver. The driving cab is adjacent to the machine room, which in turn backs onto the luggage compartment. Train personnel have access via a passage from the luggage compartment into the adjacent coach.



## Data

Wheel arrangement	Bo'Bo'
Gauge	1435 mm
Wheel diameter, new	1100 mm
Locomotive mass, tare	74 t
Additional load (luggage)	4 t
Mass of mechanical part	37 t
Continuous rating (UIC) at motor shaft	3000 kW
Maximum rating (traction and electrical braking) at wheel	3200 kW
Starting tractive effort at v=0-48 km/h	240 kN
Maximum braking effort	140 kN
Maximum speed	130 km/h
Overhead line voltage	15 kV, 16 2/3 Hz



Corrugated sheet metal is used for the locomotive body walls, due to weight and strength considerations. The lightweight construction of both the body and the bogies is one of the main characteristics of the mechanical part. Another feature is a further developed version of the shifting axle drive, which provides both transverse decoupling and radial adjustment of the axles. This concept is identical to that used for locomotives delivered to privately-owned railways in 1987.

Excellent track following characteristics and thus minimal stressing and wear of track and wheel sets are obtained by:

- lightweight wheelsets having low unsprung mass, i.e. monoblock wheels with bonded shrink-fit and hollow-forged axle
- flexicoil spring axle-box links
- wheelsets transversely decoupled with respect to the bogie and traction motors
- links between traction motor and the center girder of the bogie, trapezoidally arranged, provide radial adjustment of the wheelsets even when tractive effort is being exerted.

Transfer of tractive and braking forces between bogie and locomotive body is via a pair of traction rods, mounted almost horizontally.

BBC (Brown, Boveri and Company Limited, Baden, Switzerland) three-phase drive equipment incorporating asynchronous motors has been chosen. Up-to-date power semi-conductors (gate turn-off thyristors), as well as the use of microprocessor technology for control and automation systems, are further features of this new SBB (Swiss Federal Railways) locomotive.

---

## FROM THE BOOKSHELF

---

From: P. Howard

Verlag Eisenbahn announce the publication of four new titles for this year. All are by Claud Jeanmaire with German Text. Large format with hard covers.

### **75 Jahre Lötschbergbahn.**

Covers the BLS main line from Spiez to Brig. Maps, Plans and photos of construction and operation. 400 pages. 900 photos.

### **Lötschberg im Bau**

Covers the construction of the BLS and the addition of the second track to the main line. Approximately 256 pages. 400 illustrations.

### **Die Strecken der BLS. Betreibsgemeinschaft.**

This deals with all the subsidiary sections of the BLS group. Approximately 300 pages. 600 photos, maps and plans.

### **Das Rollmaterial der Berner Alpenbahn Gesellschaft.**

Comprehensive stock list of both main line and subsidiary lines. An updated version of Archive 12. 300 pages. 600 illustrations, plans, photos and maps.