

# Ottawa Light Rail Commission

Arnaud Lacaze  
on Friday, May 20, 2022



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OTTAWA LIGHT RAIL COMMISSION  
ALSTOM TRANSPORT CANADA INC. - ARNAUD LACAZE  
MAY 20, 2022

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--- Held via Zoom Videoconferencing, with all  
participants attending remotely, on the 20th day of  
May, 2022, 2:00 p.m. to 4:40 p.m.

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1 COUNSEL:

2  
3 Anthony Imbesi, Litigation Counsel Member

4 Tara Boghosian, Litigation Counsel Member

5  
6 PARTICIPANTS:

7  
8 Arnaud Lacaze, Alstom Transport Canada Inc.

9 Michael Valo & Charles Powell, Glaholt Bowles LLP

10  
11 ALSO PRESENT:

12  
13 Joanne Lawrence, Stenographer/Transcriptionist

14 Benjamin Bilgen, Virtual Technician

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1 -- Upon commencing at 2:00 p.m.

2 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. Good afternoon,  
3 Mr. Lacaze. As I mentioned, my name is Anthony  
4 Imbesi. I'm here with my colleague, Ms. Boghosian,  
5 from -- counsel for the Commission. So I'll start  
6 by reading into the record the parameters of  
7 today's interview and then we can begin.

8 So the purpose of today's interview is  
9 to obtain your evidence under oath or solemn  
10 declaration for use at the Commission's public  
11 hearings. This will be a collaborative interview  
12 such that my co-counsel, Ms. Boghosian, may  
13 intervene to ask certain questions. If time  
14 permits, your counsel may also ask follow-up  
15 questions at the end of this interview.

16 This interview is being transcribed,  
17 and the Commission intends to enter this transcript  
18 into evidence at the Commission's public hearings,  
19 either at the hearings or by way of a procedural  
20 order before the hearings commence.

21 The transcript will be posted to the  
22 Commission's public website, along with any  
23 corrections made to it, after it is entered into  
24 evidence.

25 The transcript, along with any

1 corrections later made to it, will be shared with  
2 the Commission's participants and their counsel on  
3 a confidential basis before being entered into  
4 evidence. You will be given the opportunity to  
5 review your transcript and correct any typos or  
6 other errors before the transcript is shared with  
7 the participants or entered into evidence. Any  
8 non-typographical corrections made will be appended  
9 to the transcript.

10 Pursuant to Section 33(6) of the Public  
11 Inquiries Act (2009): (As read)

12 "A witness at an inquiry shall  
13 be deemed to have objected to answer  
14 any question asked of him or her  
15 upon the ground that his or her  
16 answer may tend to incriminate the  
17 witness or may tend to establish his  
18 or her liability to civil  
19 proceedings at the instance of the  
20 Crown or of any person, and no  
21 answer given by a witness at any  
22 inquiry shall be used or be  
23 receivable in evidence against him  
24 or her in any trial or other  
25 proceedings against him or her

1                   thereafter taking place, other than  
2                   a prosecution for perjury in giving  
3                   such evidence."

4                   As required by Section 33(7) of that act, you are  
5                   hereby advised that you have the right to object to  
6                   answer any question under Section 5 of the Canada  
7                   Evidence Act.

8                   So with that out of the way, perhaps  
9                   I'll just get you to begin. If you could describe  
10                  for us your involvement in Stage 1 of Ottawa's LRT.

11                  ARNAUD LACAZE: Okay. So I was working  
12                  at that time for Alstom. I started -- I was  
13                  working as the project director here in Montreal,  
14                  on the metro subway consortium with Bombardier at  
15                  that time. And in September 2016, I joined Ottawa  
16                  to take the role of the project director for the  
17                  LRV in Ottawa. I spent mostly 2 years and a half  
18                  until October 2018 on this project. So -- and I  
19                  was in charge of this project at that time.

20                  ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And I'm sorry,  
21                  did you say that -- was your role based in Ottawa,  
22                  or did you split your time between Montreal and  
23                  Ottawa?

24                  ARNAUD LACAZE: I split my time -- my  
25                  time was split between Ottawa and Montreal. I -- I

1 kept to be based here in Montreal, but I spent, at  
2 that time, 4 to -- depends. Approximately 4 days a  
3 week in Ottawa.

4 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. Thank you. And  
5 I -- I don't have a CV or a résumé for you, but  
6 perhaps I could get you to take us through your  
7 prior experience.

8 Do I understand that you're an  
9 engineer?

10 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. I did an  
11 engineering school in France. It's an aeronautic  
12 school. So I received my degree in 1988 in France.  
13 I start -- I start in an -- in an engineering  
14 company doing 2 years working -- working for  
15 Alstom. I started as an engineer for -- for this  
16 company, and in 2001, I was hired by Alstom, and I  
17 start my career at Alstom. I -- I spent -- I'd  
18 work on several project as an engineer manager or  
19 technical manager. And then when I came here in  
20 Canada in 2007, I start to be a project and  
21 program -- program manager in -- in different  
22 subjects for -- for Alstom. I spent this time in  
23 Alstom, and I left in October 2018.

24 ANTHONY IMBESI: And do I understand  
25 now you're with VIA Rail?

1                   ARNAUD LACAZE: And now, I am a VP at  
2 VIA Rail, yes.

3                   ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So if you could  
4 just take us through, just at a fairly high level,  
5 then, after you came to Canada with Alstom, what  
6 was the nature of your experience with Alstom? I  
7 think you mentioned a few of roles that you held,  
8 but could you just explain the roles you had with  
9 rolling stock with Alstom in Canada in your last  
10 few projects.

11                   ARNAUD LACAZE: I start -- I start my  
12 career at Belfort. So Belfort is a city in France  
13 that specializes in rolling stock. So I start -- I  
14 start in 1988 in my career directly with rolling  
15 stock. So I worked on several -- several  
16 locomotive, several train projects with -- with  
17 them during that time, as a system engineer, and  
18 after that as a technical manager on this -- on  
19 this train.

20                   And following that, I wanted to have  
21 more expertise in some systems, so I moved to  
22 another -- another company -- the same company, but  
23 another city. The city is Lyon, in France. And  
24 this city is specialized in electronic parts, so I  
25 spent -- I spent several years in what we call the

1 command and control of the train, the electronic  
2 system and -- and software. So I spent time -- I  
3 spent several -- several years in this -- in this  
4 area. Same thing in different international,  
5 international projects.

6 And finally, when I moved here in  
7 Montreal because we -- at that time, Alstom bought  
8 a sister company here, the sister company from --  
9 from Lyon, so they ask me to move here in Montreal  
10 to help with startup to become an Alstom company.  
11 So I spent -- I spent 3 years, I guess, or 3 or  
12 4 years in this company doing the same thing,  
13 electronic and software for -- for systems all  
14 around the world.

15 And I wanted to go back to rolling  
16 stock at a certain point, after -- after receiving  
17 this kind of expertise. And so I start -- I came  
18 back here in Montreal with the metro, with the Azur  
19 Metro as a project manager and then as a project  
20 director for the metro.

21 ANTHONY IMBESI: And in terms of the --  
22 you'd mentioned that you had some experience  
23 doing -- dealing with the electronics and the  
24 software. Is that in respect of the rolling stock,  
25 or is that in -- as I understand, Alstom has

1 signalling division as well?

2 ARNAUD LACAZE: It's -- it's mainly  
3 rolling stock.

4 ANTHONY IMBESI: Oh, okay.

5 ARNAUD LACAZE: The division -- the  
6 division, when I was in Lyon, it was all what we  
7 call wayside or CBTC or ATC system, we call it the  
8 ERTMS in Europe. And yes, I did some -- I did  
9 some projects on the -- on this subject, but mainly  
10 always focussed on rolling stock. It was the  
11 main -- if you want, the main line or the -- yes,  
12 my main motivation has always been rolling stock,  
13 so...

14 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And when you've  
15 worked on rolling stock in other projects and  
16 particularly the last few that you had mentioned,  
17 did any of those involve integrating the rolling  
18 stock with a -- a communications -- a train control  
19 system that wasn't an Alstom proprietary system?

20 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yes. On the -- on  
21 the subway here, Ansaldo is -- Ansaldo is the  
22 provider of the system.

23 ANTHONY IMBESI: Who, sorry?

24 ARNAUD LACAZE: Ansaldo. So I used  
25 to -- but it's somewhat common to -- to not always

1 have the system of the rolling stock company, I  
2 would say, integrated. So sometimes, it was full  
3 Alstom -- Alstom systems. And sometimes, like  
4 here, the subway in Montreal, for example, rolling  
5 stock was a mix of Bombardier and Alstom, and this  
6 time was a third one, so Ansaldo.

7 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And then during  
8 those projects, then, would you have had had  
9 involvement in the integration components of --

10 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes.

11 ANTHONY IMBESI: -- the signalling  
12 system? Yes?

13 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, because even if  
14 it's a -- it's a third company, the rolling  
15 stock -- the rolling stock is -- is -- is part of  
16 the integration. We were part of the integration  
17 because we had direct contracts with -- with this  
18 company. I don't know if you're -- it's -- it was  
19 a direct link between Alstom and Ansaldo, for  
20 example. It was not -- it was not through  
21 Bombardier, for example. The -- the STM, so the --  
22 the company of Montreal use Ansaldo because the  
23 whole system was Ansaldo, but the contract was  
24 under the Alstom responsibility. It was -- it was  
25 not something -- some -- it was not for a third

1 company framework.

2 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And, sorry, so  
3 just so -- just so I understand that, then, was it  
4 Alstom that had a contract directly with STM, or  
5 was your contract with Ansaldo, and who then had a  
6 contract with STM?

7 ARNAUD LACAZE: No. We had a direct  
8 contract with -- through the consortium with STM,  
9 but the contract with Ansaldo was directly between  
10 Alstom and Ansaldo.

11 ANTHONY IMBESI: I see. Okay. And so  
12 that --

13 ARNAUD LACAZE: Ansaldo -- Ansaldo had  
14 no -- had no contact with STM.

15 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So they were a  
16 subcontractor to you on that, to Alstom on that  
17 project?

18 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yes. And we used  
19 this company because the company was already  
20 providing the -- the system to -- to the existing  
21 train for STM.

22 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so in your  
23 experience on these past projects, is it typical  
24 that these are the arrangements, that Alstom is the  
25 one who enters into the contract with the train

1 control supplier?

2 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yeah.

3 ANTHONY IMBESI: Have you ever worked  
4 on a project other than Ottawa where that wasn't  
5 the case?

6 ARNAUD LACAZE: No.

7 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And so turning  
8 then to your role with Ottawa's LRT project, you'd  
9 mentioned you were a project director from  
10 September 2016 to October 2018. Could you just  
11 explain for me what your role was as project  
12 director. What were your responsibilities, at a  
13 high level?

14 ARNAUD LACAZE: High level. I -- I  
15 will reuse a typical -- a typical acronym from  
16 Alstom is -- the project director is responsible of  
17 the QCD: the quality, the cost, and the delays, if  
18 any. So we need -- we are here to -- to make  
19 working all the team together, to be able -- to be  
20 sure at the end to have the -- to have a project  
21 with a good level of quality, on time, and under  
22 the budget -- and under the budget that we -- that  
23 we have at the beginning of the project.

24 So the main role is that, is to -- to  
25 be able to always be inside this triangle of --

1 find a good balance between all of them and be able  
2 to mitigate all the issues, to make the people  
3 working all together, according to our contract.

4 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And so when you  
5 were the project director for this project, were  
6 you the -- you were the leader of Alstom in respect  
7 of this project?

8 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. Yeah. Yes.

9 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And who was in  
10 the position of project director immediately before  
11 you? Was that Nadia Zaari?

12 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. It was Nadia,  
13 yes.

14 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So I'd like to  
15 first start by speaking to you about the Citadis  
16 Spirit in particular. The Citadis Spirit, was that  
17 the first Citadis Spirit was on the Ottawa LRT  
18 Stage 1?

19 ARNAUD LACAZE: It was the first --  
20 yes. Citadis Spirit was the first in North  
21 America, yes. It's -- this LRV exists in Europe  
22 and in other countries, and -- but it was the first  
23 time that we deployed, at that time, what we called  
24 the Spirit, the Citadis Spirit in North America,  
25 yes.

1                   ANTHONY IMBESI: So is -- is there a  
2 Citadis Spirit model that exists elsewhere outside  
3 of North America?

4                   ARNAUD LACAZE: I would say it's  
5 adaptation. It's -- the base exists, but it has  
6 been adapted to -- to the reality of the North  
7 America -- American market, for -- for sure.

8                   ANTHONY IMBESI: So -- but the -- just  
9 so I understand, the LRVs that do exist, the  
10 Citadis LRVs in Europe, for example, are any of  
11 them called the Citadis Spirit, or is the Spirit  
12 what the modified version is called in North  
13 America?

14                   ARNAUD LACAZE: If I remember well --  
15 and honestly, I don't remember exactly, but I  
16 think -- I think the Spirit is the name of the  
17 North America. Because the Spirit -- if I remember  
18 well, it's a mix of what we called the -- the  
19 tramway in Europe and what we call a tram train.  
20 So the tram train is a tramway, able to go at  
21 higher speed is a tramway, if you want to be able  
22 to do a larger distance, like -- like -- like VIA  
23 Rail in Ottawa. So the Citadis, if I remember  
24 well, is a mix of these two -- of these two  
25 systems.

1                   ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And sorry, if  
2 you could just explain that for me again. So  
3 you've got the tram on the one side - which is,  
4 you've just explained, that's the one that's  
5 typically designed to go greater differences?

6                   ARNAUD LACAZE: No, the tram -- what we  
7 call the tram or tramway is the rolling stock  
8 mostly dedicated to be in town, downtown.

9                   ANTHONY IMBESI: I see.

10                  ARNAUD LACAZE: We take the example of  
11 Paris, for example. In Paris, we have tramway  
12 inside, and as soon as the tramway needs to go  
13 outside Paris, because it's a larger distances, we  
14 did some modification of this tramway. And we  
15 don't call them anyway tramway - we call them tram  
16 train.

17                  ANTHONY IMBESI: Tram train. Okay.

18                  ARNAUD LACAZE: It's not a tram; it's  
19 not a train. It's a mix. Because -- because you  
20 have specific bogies, you are -- to be able to  
21 accelerate quickly and to stop also quickly. So  
22 it's a -- it's a mix.

23                  So the Citadis is a mix of these -- of  
24 these two systems, I would say, and that's why it's  
25 specifically developed for the -- for the North

1 American markets.

2 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And so are the  
3 European Citadis models, are -- are those what you  
4 would call tram trains as well?

5 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yes.

6 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay.

7 ARNAUD LACAZE: From what I remember,  
8 honestly, maybe -- maybe the guy from Alstom -- the  
9 international guy from Alstom would be better than  
10 me. But from what I remember, we are more like a  
11 tram train -- tram train.

12 ANTHONY IMBESI: Yeah, no, and I'm just  
13 asking just to the best of your knowledge.

14 And so in terms, then, of modifications  
15 that were made to the Citadis to bring it to this  
16 project and to North America, do you have an  
17 understanding as to what the extent of some of  
18 those modifications would be?

19 ARNAUD LACAZE: It would be -- when I  
20 came, it was already done. The design was  
21 mostly -- mostly -- mostly completed at that time.  
22 The modification was mainly a link to the -- what  
23 we call the winterization, so to adapt the project  
24 to the winter condition of -- of Canada.

25 And after that, it was mainly -- due to

1 the Canadian -- Canadian content, it was also  
2 some -- some local supplier that we developed to be  
3 able to -- to be able to -- to have this -- this  
4 Canadian content accessible.

5 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so in terms of  
6 what I understand to be a few modifications that  
7 may have been made, was there a different bogie  
8 design for the Citadis Spirit as compared to the  
9 other Citadis models?

10 ARNAUD LACAZE: No. It's -- the bogie  
11 is -- the bogie is -- was -- was an existing bogie  
12 from -- from Europe. So it was a transfer -- these  
13 bogies already exist, and it was made at Le Creusot  
14 in France, so we -- we had no modification on -- on  
15 this bogie.

16 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So for the  
17 bogie, then --

18 ARNAUD LACAZE: We did a transfer -- we  
19 did a transfer of production from France to --  
20 to -- to here, to Sorel-Tracy in Quebec.

21 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And so would  
22 the only difference for the bogie, then, be the  
23 suppliers who supplied the components?

24 ARNAUD LACAZE: From what I remember,  
25 yes. It was mainly the suppliers that effectively

1 would try to develop the local supplier in -- in  
2 Canada but also in North America, to be able after  
3 that to reach the American market.

4 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So was the  
5 decision to -- were there other supply chains that  
6 Alstom created for this project that differed from  
7 past projects?

8 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. We create --  
9 because it's a -- it's a newer product, and it's a  
10 new -- it's a new contract, we developed a  
11 dedicated supply chain for this project. For some  
12 of the parts, we were able to reuse -- because some  
13 of the parts are very -- are very dedicated, so  
14 we -- we had no choice to reuse what exists in  
15 Europe, for example, and for the other one, we  
16 developed -- we developed a new supply chain here  
17 in North America.

18 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And did I  
19 understand you saying as well that Alstom was  
20 interested in developing new supply chains in North  
21 America --

22 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes.

23 ANTHONY IMBESI: -- for future  
24 projects?

25 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, for sure.

1                   ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. In terms of the  
2 existing -- and I call it the existing, but the  
3 Citadis model that was present in Europe before  
4 this project, were those 100 percent low floor  
5 vehicles as well?

6                   ARNAUD LACAZE: 100 percent? I don't  
7 know. But yes, most -- it's -- it's clearly --  
8 clearly -- the floor is something -- that's why --  
9 since Alstom was -- or is, I don't know, but -- the  
10 number one in this kind of tramway because Alstom  
11 developed, clearly, these products, and I don't  
12 recall Bombardier or Siemens able to have a low  
13 floor or a low floor product, anyway, so --

14                   ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So that's a  
15 typical --

16                   ARNAUD LACAZE: 90 -- maybe 90. I  
17 don't know if it's 100 percent, but most of -- most  
18 of the Citadis product or most of the tramway  
19 are -- are low floor, yes.

20                   ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So that's an  
21 existing feature of Alstom's LRVs.

22                   ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yes. Alstom  
23 developed that at the beginning of year 20, 20  
24 or -- 2000, and yes, it's clearly a -- it's clearly  
25 a specific product for -- from Alstom, yes.

1                   ANTHONY IMBESI: And you had mentioned  
2 some winterization as well when I had asked you  
3 about modifications. What would have to have been  
4 modified to address winterization?

5                   ARNAUD LACAZE: On the train?

6                   ANTHONY IMBESI: On the -- on the  
7 train, yes.

8                   ARNAUD LACAZE: Well, honestly, as I  
9 recall, the floors -- under the floor, we put  
10 some -- we put a heated -- heated floor. We put  
11 some -- a lot of protection on the cables. We  
12 put -- we put some system able to -- able to  
13 defreeze quickly -- quickly the windows, right,  
14 some -- yes, this kind of techniques.

15                  ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So is it fair,  
16 then, that there weren't any sort of fundamental  
17 structural changes or anything to the vehicle?

18                  ARNAUD LACAZE: Structural, no. Oh,  
19 no, no. No, it's clearly -- it's mostly  
20 protection, protection around the existing -- the  
21 existing system, yes.

22                  ANTHONY IMBESI: And so to your  
23 knowledge, have Alstom vehicles ever been  
24 integrated with a Thales train control system  
25 before?

1                   ARNAUD LACAZE: Before, yes. Yes. It  
2 was not the first time for us to work with Thales,  
3 yes.

4                   ANTHONY IMBESI: Do you know offhand  
5 what projects those would have been?

6                   ARNAUD LACAZE: No. No, I don't  
7 have -- I don't -- I don't -- I don't want to give  
8 you a name where I'm -- where I'm not 100 percent  
9 sure. But as I said at the beginning, this is  
10 common, to integrate an external system like this -  
11 Thales, Ansaldo, you know, another one.

12                   ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So given what  
13 you've told me about that and about Alstom's  
14 vehicles typically being low floor, to your  
15 knowledge, has a CBTC system been integrated with a  
16 low floor LRV in the past?

17                   ARNAUD LACAZE: I don't know.

18                   ANTHONY IMBESI: I'm sorry, did you say  
19 no or you didn't know the answer?

20                   ARNAUD LACAZE: I said I don't know.

21                   ANTHONY IMBESI: You don't know. Okay.  
22 Thank you. That's fine.

23                   Would that -- would integrating a CBTC  
24 system with a low floor LRV, would that incorporate  
25 any challenges or hurdles to be overcome in the

1 process?

2 ARNAUD LACAZE: It's -- normally,  
3 it's -- I would say it's a normal technical  
4 challenge. You have to design the interface; you  
5 have to design the product; you have to design the  
6 interface; you have to -- you have to validate the  
7 interface, and then after that, you have to receive  
8 the equipment validated by your subsupplier or the  
9 third party and do the integration, and after that,  
10 validate that everything is working properly. So  
11 you -- it's a normal technical V process, so when  
12 you do step by step, you do the integration, and  
13 then after that, you go -- you do the other side of  
14 the V cycle and you validate.

15 So normally it's not -- it's a  
16 technical challenge because it's always a technical  
17 challenge, but normally it shouldn't -- shouldn't  
18 be so hard. Is it more difficult than the LRV than  
19 on the other one? Honestly, no. It's -- as soon  
20 as you have the space, you have defined the space  
21 to put -- to put the equipment, you have an  
22 agreement with this company. After that, you have  
23 to do -- to do -- to do the job.

24 The main challenge, once again, is to  
25 do the rail integration of the system and to

1 clearly -- you have to -- if -- if Alstom was, for  
2 example, the -- in direct contact with Thales for  
3 this project, clearly we -- clearly, as I  
4 mentioned, we would have put someone dedicated with  
5 the integration because it's -- it's only a matter  
6 of integration. So you have to have someone or a  
7 team dedicated to the integration, dedicated to the  
8 communication with the supplier, and after that,  
9 this team will be able to integrate that into the  
10 rolling stock.

11 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. Yeah, and I'll  
12 certainly take you through some of that integration  
13 in a little bit, but first, I'd like to turn to  
14 your -- the time when you first started on the  
15 project. Could you just explain, to the best of  
16 your recollection, what was the state of the  
17 project when you arrived.

18 ARNAUD LACAZE: So when I arrived, I  
19 arrived in September 2016. So when I arrive at  
20 Ottawa, in production, I think Train 7 -- train --  
21 yes, Train 7 was in production. Train -- it was  
22 the beginning of the production of Train 7. Train  
23 2 was at the beginning of the serial test - so, if  
24 you want, the production test - and Train 1 was  
25 still in Hornell, doing some test and doing some

1 tests with Thales at that time.

2 ANTHONY IMBESI: I'm sorry, in -- which  
3 LRV was it in Hornell? Was that LRV 1?

4 ARNAUD LACAZE: LRV 1, yes, was in  
5 Hornell doing some serial test and doing some what  
6 we call static PICO tests with Thales.

7 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So LRV 27 was  
8 in production. LRV --

9 ARNAUD LACAZE: No, no, no. LRV 7.

10 ANTHONY IMBESI: Oh, okay. LRV 7.  
11 That makes more sense to me. And you indicated  
12 that LRV 2 was at the beginning of serial testing?

13 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yeah.

14 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And so when you  
15 arrived and you just explained the status of where  
16 things were, did you understand that to have been  
17 on schedule? Behind schedule? What was your  
18 understanding of how it was as compared to how it  
19 was originally planned?

20 ARNAUD LACAZE: Well, I arrived in  
21 September, but I did -- during the summer, I did --  
22 in July and -- and August, I did some -- some  
23 meeting with Nadia and OLRTC. So Nadia was the --  
24 the project director before me, so we did some  
25 handover, which is something classical at Alstom.

1 So we did some meeting together at Hornell -- or in  
2 Ottawa and in Montreal to do some handover.

3 And so I understood at that time that  
4 we just had signed a couple of months ago a new --  
5 a new baseline with OLRTC in terms of the -- in  
6 terms of schedule. But when I came in in  
7 September, I realized that effectively we started  
8 to have some difficulties with the schedule, and we  
9 started to be behind the schedule. So yes, I  
10 started with my team first to -- to see where was  
11 the difficulties and -- and started to see with  
12 OLRTC what was possible then to be done. Because  
13 OLRT -- we realized also at that time that OLRTC  
14 had some issues to give us access to some of --  
15 areas at the MSF, for example, but also to the test  
16 track, for -- outside -- outside of the MSF to  
17 allow us to do the tests, yes.

18 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so as I understand  
19 it, there had been a schedule agreed upon sometime  
20 in the few months prior to your arrival, and that  
21 was slightly behind by the time that you joined in  
22 the end of summer, early fall?

23 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. We signed --  
24 Alstom signed, at that time, the V5 -- Revision V5  
25 of the schedule. I don't recall exactly when. It

1 may have been May or -- I don't know. And in  
2 September, yes, I realized with my -- with my team  
3 that some of the activity started to be behind,  
4 yes.

5 ANTHONY IMBESI: And what activities  
6 were those in particular? Was it assembly?  
7 Testing?

8 ARNAUD LACAZE: At that time, it was  
9 mainly -- mainly the testing. We still didn't have  
10 access to the test track, whereas train set number  
11 2 was ready to go outside. And also access to MSF:  
12 We were able to have full access to the production  
13 line, but the -- during the production -- during  
14 the production process, you need, at a certain  
15 point, to put the LRV in what we call a test area  
16 to do some water tests, to be -- to be sure that  
17 there is no leakage inside the vehicles, and we  
18 also needed to go in a specific area to do some  
19 serial tests, so be sure that the train is ready,  
20 in terms of manufacturing, to start and to go  
21 outside.

22 And when I arrive at that time, Alex  
23 L'Homme, the person in charge of the production in  
24 the site for -- for us, told me that, yes, we still  
25 didn't have access to that. So I started to try to

1 mitigate -- to mitigate some activities with OLRTC  
2 to clearly be able to -- first, to continue the  
3 production and see what was possible to do.

4 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So I have a  
5 question for you about the mitigation in a second,  
6 but just so I have it clearly, then, so you had  
7 access to the portion of the MSF where you were  
8 doing the assembly; correct?

9 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes.

10 ANTHONY IMBESI: The issue was that you  
11 did not have access, full access, a sufficient  
12 space in the MSF to do the static testing?

13 ARNAUD LACAZE: To do static testing,  
14 weighting, so to put weights in the train, and  
15 water test bay, so to do the water -- to do the  
16 water test. And this is --

17 ANTHONY IMBESI: And --

18 ARNAUD LACAZE: -- test track, and  
19 after that, because train set 2 was dated to do the  
20 test to be able to go outside the MSF, to start the  
21 dynamic test on the -- on the main line.

22 ANTHONY IMBESI: And I'm sorry, did you  
23 say LRV 2 was ready to do the --

24 ARNAUD LACAZE: When I arrived, LRV 2  
25 was in the test bay, and it was doing some tests,

1 ready to go -- ready to go outside to start the  
2 dynamic test, yes.

3 ANTHONY IMBESI: And then that's where  
4 you experienced issues with accessing the test  
5 track.

6 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. It was -- when I  
7 arrive, it was one of the main -- the first main  
8 actions that I made with OLRTC, trying to -- to  
9 find some way -- to find some mitigation to be able  
10 to start the test, first to have access to the  
11 entire MSF and quickly have access to the test  
12 track to start -- to start the tests, yes.

13 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so at what point,  
14 then, did Alstom get access to the portions of the  
15 MSF that it required to perform the static testing  
16 and the other tests that you had mentioned?

17 ARNAUD LACAZE: So for the static --  
18 for the static test, when we had access only to  
19 one -- one area instead of four, and we had the --  
20 and other functionality was not there. So if I  
21 remember well, when we had -- we were not only to  
22 have power through the wayside. We had no power  
23 from the catenary, which is -- which clearly --  
24 clearly -- we can progress with it, but at a  
25 certain point, you cannot do all the tests, for

1 sure. And so we were not able to do all the tests,  
2 and we had no access to use those parts.

3 So we were able to continue the tests,  
4 and this is what I mitigate with OLRTC, saying,  
5 Okay, let's continue with the test, but we will not  
6 be able to perform 100 percent of the tests. So at  
7 a certain point, we'd have to find an agreement:  
8 first, to be paid; and secondly, to say, okay, the  
9 train is good enough to go outside to start the  
10 dynamic tests, but this train will have to come  
11 back anyway because we'll have to complete the  
12 tests at a certain point. So it was a delay.

13 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So --

14 ARNAUD LACAZE: I asked them to  
15 continue to work with -- to -- to allow us to have  
16 full access to the -- to the -- what we call the  
17 LMB, the test area at MSF, to have full access  
18 to -- and "full access" meaning with all the  
19 functionalities to allow us to complete all the  
20 functional tests.

21 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So your  
22 mitigation plan, then, that you had mentioned, that  
23 was to perform all the testing that you could on  
24 the LRVs that were available. And then was it then  
25 assumed that those were going to go out for dynamic

1 testing and then come back to perform the balance  
2 of the static testing and the weather testing and  
3 everything, the weight testing?

4 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yes. Because I  
5 cannot -- this -- this is the part of triangle that  
6 I mentioned to you, the Q, the C, and the D. At a  
7 certain point, I need to -- I cannot stop the  
8 production, and I need to mitigate, but the -- this  
9 kind of mitigation clearly will have an impact on  
10 the schedule because if you have to -- if we find  
11 an agreement, so it's fair, but in the meantime, as  
12 we mention, we'll accumulate delays because the --  
13 the train will have to be back to complete the  
14 test. So we are talking about train set 2, but  
15 it's a production line, so number 3, 4, 5 would  
16 arrive soon.

17 So at a certain point, okay, mitigate,  
18 let's continue, but OLRTC also needed to understand  
19 that this train will have to come back at a certain  
20 point to complete -- to complete their activities.

21 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And do you  
22 recall when you got full or sufficient access to  
23 everything in the MSF that was required to perform  
24 everything?

25 ARNAUD LACAZE: Full access, I don't

1 recall, and I think I left the project without  
2 accepting the full access. So during 2 years and a  
3 half, I never had what I call full access. But I  
4 was -- I was -- I don't remember exactly when, but  
5 I was able, maybe mid 2017, to have access at least  
6 to the -- to the LMB with a specific work permit.  
7 Because it was not under the Alstom property. It  
8 was still under OLRTC property. We put in place a  
9 work permit with them, to say, okay, we will -- we  
10 will have access -- we want to have access to this  
11 area between this time and this time to do the  
12 test, and if OLRTC wants to do some work to  
13 complete the building, they will have to do that  
14 after or before, or if you do it in the same time  
15 as us, we will have to stop the test.

16 So we put this -- we put this work  
17 permit and the access with them to -- to be -- to  
18 be able to access to these -- to these specific  
19 areas.

20 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So the full  
21 construction wasn't completed, but it was  
22 sufficient for your purposes. You just needed a  
23 work permit in order to access that portion because  
24 it was under OLRTC's control?

25 ARNAUD LACAZE: It was -- yes. And

1 because we needed to complete the -- we need to  
2 complete the work. For example, the catenary was  
3 not functional at the beginning, so we -- we  
4 started all the tests with what we called the  
5 wayside, and OLRTC, it was mandatory for them to --  
6 to complete the work to be able -- for us to have  
7 access to the catenary.

8 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so by May of  
9 2017 -- so leaving aside the issue that you needed  
10 a work permit in order to access it, was there  
11 anything that was still missing that was preventing  
12 you from -- from completing any of the work?

13 ARNAUD LACAZE: I don't -- I don't  
14 remember if it was in May of 2017, honestly, but it  
15 was somewhere in 2017 that we were able to -- to  
16 start. I -- I remember that, at a certain time, we  
17 had access to -- to the catenary. But following  
18 that, we had some issues with the power of the  
19 catenary. In fact, the -- the power pack, or what  
20 I think they called that is OCS, was not sufficient  
21 in terms of power. So each time that we started to  
22 test the train, the power was off. So they needed  
23 also to redesign the OCS station to be able to --  
24 for us to complete the test.

25 So yes, at a certain point, we had

1 access to the LMB, and we were able to start the  
2 test. But quickly, we -- we realize and we said to  
3 OLRTC, you have an issue with your power because we  
4 are not able to complete the tests.

5 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so in talking  
6 about the different tests that were undertaken, the  
7 early tests that are done, the static tests that we  
8 were just talking about, are those referred to as  
9 validation tests?

10 ARNAUD LACAZE: I don't remember what  
11 we called that. For me, it's what I call factory  
12 tests, or production tests. So after -- each  
13 vehicle, after the production, after that  
14 production, we need to go in this area to do this  
15 phase of tests, to be sure that everything is  
16 capable, functionality is there.

17 What I call validation -- and I don't  
18 know if it's the word used by Alstom, but what I  
19 call validation is the qualification of a specific  
20 system. Typically, you develop the system in --  
21 during the design phase, and you qualify or you  
22 validate the system. You validate it or you  
23 qualify the system once. And you do -- you choose  
24 to do that on one, two, maybe three trains, to  
25 qualify, once for all, that the system is working.

1 You don't have to do that every time.

2 ANTHONY IMBESI: And would those be,  
3 like, component tests and type tests?

4 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, it's type tests,  
5 yes, typically. And for that -- you -- you need --  
6 yes, at the beginning, you need to have access to  
7 the LMB because we do in the LMB what we call  
8 static qualification or static type tests, and  
9 quickly after that, you need to go outside on  
10 the -- on the track to do type or qualification  
11 dynamic test.

12 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So within the  
13 we'll call the validation or qualification phase,  
14 there is -- there is the type tests. That includes  
15 both static and dynamic type testing?

16 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yeah.

17 ANTHONY IMBESI: And then from there,  
18 do the LRVs, then, each move on to static and  
19 dynamic serial testing?

20 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. We have to do --  
21 each train after that, we have to do both a static  
22 and a dynamic test, but it's a very short test  
23 because we consider that the qualification of the  
24 type tests have been done on the -- on one or two  
25 trains, depending on the project. But after that,

1 each train will go in the LMB, doing the production  
2 test, static test, and a short dynamic run.

3 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And so speaking  
4 just then about the validation or qualification  
5 testing, both the serial -- excuse me, the static  
6 and dynamic components, then, is that all to be  
7 completed before serial production begins?

8 ARNAUD LACAZE: In the -- in an ideal  
9 world, yes. Yes.

10 ANTHONY IMBESI: In Ottawa, that is  
11 what was to happen?

12 ARNAUD LACAZE: No, we did -- because  
13 we had some delays -- for me, we had some delays in  
14 the -- in the design phase with OLRTC and the City.  
15 Alstom accumulates some delays because OLRTC and  
16 the City were not able to define exactly -- exactly  
17 what they wanted, in terms of design and in terms  
18 of functionalities.

19 But at the end, the commercial launch  
20 still remained the same. So at a certain point,  
21 you are -- your schedule is -- is more and more  
22 short, so -- so you need -- you need to take the  
23 risk, and you need to do things about it. So  
24 that's what we decided in -- after a discussion  
25 with OLRTC, of course, is to say, okay, let's start

1 the -- let's do the qualification and the  
2 validation test on LRV 1 and 2, but in the  
3 meantime, let's start the production.

4 And you -- you understand the risk  
5 to -- to do that is we will have retrofit to be  
6 done after that, but at least you will have  
7 95 percent of the train already here. So it's -- I  
8 would say it's common risk. You would see that on  
9 every rolling stock project. At a certain point,  
10 you need to do things in parallel, and then the  
11 main risk is the retrofit after that, for sure.

12 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so -- and doing  
13 them in parallel as occurred in Ottawa, is that  
14 fairly typical on other projects, or was this a  
15 unique instance?

16 ARNAUD LACAZE: No, no, it's typical.  
17 It's --

18 ANTHONY IMBESI: It's typical?

19 ARNAUD LACAZE: It's typical because  
20 it's -- all the rolling stock project today in the  
21 world are very short in terms of -- between the  
22 start of the design phase and the commercial  
23 launch, that you need to do that. You need to do  
24 that.

25 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so speaking about

1 the retrofits, then, so did the majority of  
2 retrofits arise because of the need or the decision  
3 to conduct the validation qualification testing in  
4 parallel with serial production?

5 ARNAUD LACAZE: No. Not from my -- not  
6 from my point of view.

7 ANTHONY IMBESI: I'm sorry, your  
8 internet just cut out for -- for me. If you could  
9 repeat that.

10 ARNAUD LACAZE: It's part of -- part  
11 of -- of the retrofit was due to -- to this -- this  
12 strategy, of course, but a lot of the retrofit was  
13 also due to -- to the design that was not fully --  
14 fully frozen. And, again, the interface with  
15 Thales, for example, of the interface with the  
16 radio change until -- until the last minute.

17 So -- so yes, the risk was taken with  
18 OLRTC to -- to get the train, and meaning that we  
19 needed to complete some tests. But in the  
20 meantime, some interfaces was not yet completely  
21 frozen. And typically -- typically, as the Thales  
22 interface and the radio interfaces was not -- was  
23 not fully frozen -- it was frozen for us, but we  
24 realized at the end that it was not fully frozen,  
25 and it was also a big part of the retrofit that we

1 did before -- before I left. Yeah.

2 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So the -- the  
3 retrofits arose for both reasons, then.

4 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. Yes.

5 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And so in  
6 talking about the retrofits generally -- and I am  
7 going to take you into more detail with respect to  
8 the interface with Thales, but speaking more  
9 generally, then, when the retrofits were being  
10 dealt with, were those being dealt with at the same  
11 time as serial production of the LRVs?

12 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. The idea is to --  
13 is to work with the configuration, so, in fact, you  
14 accumulate some return of experience of your train  
15 in tests, for example, so you do -- do one or two  
16 tests, you accumulate a ton of experience in terms  
17 of modification, improvement, or correction. And  
18 following that, you do what we call a CCB, a  
19 control board with the -- the technical guy, your  
20 industrial guy, your team to define, effectively,  
21 when and starting at which LRV you will start to  
22 implement all this modification.

23 And because you cannot run, run, run  
24 without the modification, you design a  
25 modification, and this batch of modification are

1 called configuration reviews. And so you define --  
2 okay -- with your industrial guy, for example, we  
3 will apply the configuration B starting train  
4 number 8 in production, for example, meaning that  
5 from 1 to 7, you will have a dedicated team, a  
6 retrofit team, and this team will apply this  
7 modification directly in the field, so on the  
8 trains that are already outside the production  
9 line. So it's -- we work like this, by batch of  
10 modification, or configuration, if you want.

11 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So you -- you  
12 implement the change on the new LRVs going forward  
13 as they're being produced. And then you have a  
14 dedicated team performing retrofits on the ones  
15 that have already been produced that are in need of  
16 that retrofit.

17 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, you -- at that  
18 time, once you have the production and you start to  
19 use the train, you need to have two teams: the  
20 retrofit team, and a production team, of course,  
21 and a configuration manager or configuration team  
22 able to -- to dispatch the work between these two  
23 groups.

24 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so is that  
25 something that would have been planned for at the

1     outset of the project, having a dedicated retrofit  
2     team available to do that in tandem with  
3     production?

4                     ARNAUD LACAZE:  Yes.  It's something --  
5     it's -- it's not the plan at the beginning because  
6     we want to have something perfect.  But the reality  
7     is this:  You have to build the team at the end,  
8     because you start -- you start to do some tests,  
9     you start to accumulate -- accumulated some return  
10    of experience, and you don't want to disturb the  
11    production.  You don't want to ask the guy in  
12    production to come on the train that is already  
13    outside the production to do the work -- to do the  
14    job.  No.

15                    You want -- you your production team  
16    and your production line focussed on the production  
17    of the train, and that's it.  So you don't want  
18    them to -- to be disturbed by other things.  So you  
19    have -- at the time, you have to get this retrofit  
20    team, and often the retrofit team becomes the  
21    warranty team.  It's --

22                    ANTHONY IMBESI:  Becomes the warranty  
23    team?

24                    ARNAUD LACAZE:  Yes, and generally this  
25    team, because they accumulate also their own

1 experience on the train, this team, at a certain  
2 point, will become the warranty team when the  
3 project will be in -- in that phase, so it's a  
4 win/win solution for -- for -- for the project.

5 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So then based  
6 off what you're -- what you're saying, then, does  
7 the retrofit work draw any resources away from  
8 production, or are they handled separately such  
9 that they're not effected?

10 ARNAUD LACAZE: No, no, we -- it's a  
11 dedicated team. It's a separate team. So --  
12 clearly, the main idea is not take people from the  
13 production line. So no, it's a dedicated team  
14 focussed on -- focussed on the retrofit.

15 ANTHONY IMBESI: So would Alstom  
16 needing to perform this retrofit work, does that  
17 impact its schedule in any way, then, given that  
18 there's a dedicated team handling that?

19 ARNAUD LACAZE: It's -- clear that's  
20 for some retrofit activity, yes, you will impact  
21 the schedule, and -- and that's why -- that's why  
22 it's -- it's a common agreement with OLRTC or with  
23 the customer, saying, Okay, we take the risk to  
24 start the production; we take the risk to do things  
25 in parallel; but be aware that, at a certain point,

1 you will have to do some -- we will have to do some  
2 retrofit activities.

3 So according -- and at the beginning of  
4 the project, it's -- it might be very difficult to  
5 say it will have a huge impact or not on the  
6 schedule because you don't know -- we don't know  
7 exactly the -- the time and the energy that you  
8 will have to spend for the retrofit because you  
9 don't know what you don't know. It's the beginning  
10 of the tests.

11 But you must alert your customer that  
12 effectively, maybe, you will have to face some  
13 delay, will have to find some mitigation plan. And  
14 the mitigation plan can be, okay, let's start the  
15 commercial launch with some functionality that will  
16 not be 100 percent functional, for example. You  
17 know, if it's not linked to some safety system, you  
18 can -- you can have this agreement with your  
19 customer.

20 It's -- but this is -- this is where I  
21 said at the beginning that you need to have this --  
22 this exchange with your customer, and both must  
23 understand the risks and must accept the risk.

24 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so is -- is that  
25 fairly typical on these projects, to have certain

1 items to be deferred to be dealt with after revenue  
2 launch?

3 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yes, yeah. It has  
4 always been the case, yes.

5 ANTHONY IMBESI: It's always the case,  
6 or typically the case?

7 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yes. Yes, because  
8 at -- it's normal -- you need to -- you can do all  
9 the tests you want in the -- in the laboratory on  
10 your laptop, do simulation. You can do everything  
11 you want. The -- the reality is when you are able  
12 to -- to use your train in the field. This is  
13 where, at the end, you -- you will learn most of  
14 the -- you have the most return experience.

15 Because we are not -- in this -- in  
16 2020 or now, we are not talking anymore about the  
17 train alone in the track. It's -- it's a system  
18 now. The train is -- the train is clearly  
19 integrated in the -- in the structural element,  
20 with communication to the wayside, with information  
21 coming from -- from the rail, with -- from -- it's  
22 a -- it's a clearly an integrated system. So  
23 this -- yes. This is where you learn the most.

24 ANTHONY IMBESI: And did the need to  
25 perform retrofits, both because

1 validation/qualification was done in tandem with  
2 production and also because of issues that you'd  
3 indicated arose in the interface with Thales, did  
4 the requirement to do those retrofits impact the  
5 testing and commissioning in any way? Did it delay  
6 the testing and commissioning? Did it cause that  
7 to be compressed? Did it have any implication?

8 ARNAUD LACAZE: Well, yes, it  
9 compressed -- it compressed -- I don't -- I don't  
10 remember that it compressed the commissioning  
11 activities, but it -- it put a lot of pressure on  
12 the team because -- because we wanted to keep -- we  
13 wanted to keep the -- the deadline. So we  
14 increase -- I increase the number of -- of people  
15 in my team to be able to work on Saturday, Sunday,  
16 and to work in two or three shifts, to be able to  
17 maintain a -- to maintain a -- to maintain the --  
18 the dates. Because we still need -- if we need --  
19 if we need 5 days to do the commissioning, yes, I  
20 will try to -- to push the team to do better, but  
21 if it's 5 days, it's 5 days, so I will not be able  
22 to compress it any more.

23 So the -- the main solution for us, at  
24 that time, was to increase the workforce and say,  
25 okay, let's -- let's work on Saturday and Sunday to

1 do the -- to do the retrofit, and let's try to work  
2 in two or three shifts to complete also the  
3 retrofit on some of the trains.

4 ANTHONY IMBESI: Did the -- in your  
5 view, did it -- did the necessary amount of testing  
6 and commissioning get done despite some of the  
7 delays you just mentioned?

8 ARNAUD LACAZE: Sorry, can you repeat.

9 ANTHONY IMBESI: Did you feel that the  
10 necessary amount or the required amount of testing  
11 and commissioning was still done despite the delays  
12 that were experienced?

13 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. We -- we -- we  
14 tried to -- to do as much as we can, the tests and  
15 the commissioning. But at the end, it goes back to  
16 the infrastructure. We were not able to -- to  
17 start -- to start on time. We were not able to do  
18 everything we could -- we wanted at that time. So  
19 we tried to mitigate as much as we can, but, again,  
20 it's -- and as (indiscernible), it's what I said  
21 to -- to OLRTC: You -- in the contract, we are  
22 supposed to have -- I don't remember -- 4  
23 kilometres of track, for example. We have only 2.  
24 And on these 2, we are not able to do the test --  
25 do the test all the day. We are able to do the

1 test only 6 -- 6 or 8 hours. So at the end -- at  
2 the end, it would push -- it would push the end of  
3 the validation.

4 MICHAEL VALO: Mr. Imbesi, I'm sorry to  
5 interrupt. I just want to make sure that you and  
6 Mr. Lacaze are 100 percent clear on what you're  
7 each talking about. You had asked about  
8 commissioning and testing, and I just wanted to  
9 ensure you were clear about whether you meant  
10 commissioning of the overall system or  
11 commissioning of the vehicles alone, or maybe both.  
12 I just want that to be clear because it wasn't.  
13 I'm just not certain, that's all.

14 ANTHONY IMBESI: No, I appreciate that.  
15 I'm speaking about the vehicles specifically.

16 MICHAEL VALO: Okay.

17 ANTHONY IMBESI: So in your view,  
18 then -- and just to make sure that you are  
19 answering what I'm specifically asking, so speaking  
20 about the vehicles in particular, you had felt that  
21 there was the sufficient amount of testing and  
22 commissioning performed in respect of those  
23 vehicles?

24 ARNAUD LACAZE: With the extension of  
25 time, yes. With -- with the extension of time, if

1 we wanted to keep on schedule, the schedule that we  
2 had at the beginning, no. No, because we had -- we  
3 had no access to the full -- to the full -- to the  
4 full line, for example. We had no access to -- to  
5 some parts of -- of the track. We were not able to  
6 do -- to do the test all the day. We were able to  
7 do the tests on the -- during 6 hours instead of  
8 10 hours. We had some issue -- sometime --  
9 sometimes -- sometime we are not able to -- to have  
10 access to the track during 2 -- 2, 3 weeks.

11 So if you are talking -- maybe it's my  
12 English, but if you are talking about the -- the  
13 baseline schedule with what OLRTC was able to give  
14 us, no, clearly we had no time because we had  
15 not -- we requested 10 hours to do a test, and  
16 OLRTC gave us, I don't know, 6 hours. So clearly  
17 we had no time. If you are talking about the  
18 extension of time that we requested, yes, because  
19 we said, okay, you give us only 6 hours, which  
20 means that we will need 2 more months, I don't  
21 know, to do -- to do the tests.

22 ANTHONY IMBESI: Yeah, no, I wasn't  
23 talking so much about a -- a comparison between  
24 what you were given and what you needed. It was  
25 more of a sense of, ultimately, what was done, was

1 that, in your view, sufficient for the testing that  
2 at least you experienced? Because I appreciate you  
3 were gone before the project got to RSA.

4 ARNAUD LACAZE: Okay. So you mean at  
5 the end, yes. Yes, from my point of view, at the  
6 end, in terms of rolling stock, in terms of  
7 traction and so on, it was -- when I left, I think  
8 we had -- we had effectively a good product, able  
9 to start -- able to start -- to start commercial  
10 launch. And when I left the project in -- in  
11 October 2018, I don't recall how many LRVs we had  
12 at that time, but it was mostly 20, and a lot of  
13 them was used -- already used by -- by OLR -- by  
14 the City to do some training.

15 So in terms of functionality of the  
16 train, I will say -- I will say yes. In terms of  
17 integration to the infrastructure, when I left, no.  
18 It was clearly not sufficient.

19 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And I won't ask  
20 you about that because I appreciate you won't have  
21 knowledge of what happened after you left the  
22 project. But I'd like to turn back, then. You  
23 were talking about access to the test track. And  
24 so you indicated that, at a certain point, you  
25 received 4 kilometres of the track as opposed to

1 the entire length?

2 ARNAUD LACAZE: No, we -- we asked them  
3 to have 4 kilometres of track to do what we call  
4 the qualification - or type tests, if you want,  
5 part of them. So we asked -- we asked to have  
6 access to 4 kilometres, and we had access only to  
7 2. So we were on this 2 kilometres of track doing  
8 some tests with LRV -- LRV 2. So it was -- we --  
9 we had no possibility to have access to more than  
10 that.

11 And after that, we -- later in the  
12 project, we wanted to have access to the full line  
13 because we need to -- we need to have access to  
14 this full line to do what we call the quality ride  
15 test. So we need to -- to validate that the  
16 behaviour of the train is good everywhere. And so  
17 we were not able to do these kinds of tests also  
18 because we -- we had no possibility to go inside  
19 the tunnel in -- in Ottawa. And so we had no  
20 access to the tunnel, and we had no access to the  
21 west -- west side of the track.

22 ANTHONY IMBESI: And -- okay. So  
23 initially you -- you asked for 4 kilometres. You  
24 were given 2. At a certain point, did you get  
25 those 4 kilometres?

1           ARNAUD LACAZE: I don't remember. Yes,  
2 at a certain point, yes, because we -- at a certain  
3 point, we were able to do the test -- to do the  
4 test -- to the test between -- until the beginning  
5 of the tunnel.

6           So I -- I think when I left, maybe a  
7 couple of months before I left in 2018, we were  
8 able to -- we were able to have access to these 4  
9 kilometres long. So 2 years -- I will say 2 years  
10 after the beginning of the tests, we were able to  
11 access to these 4 kilometres.

12           ANTHONY IMBESI: And so 2 years after  
13 the beginning of the tests, when would the tests  
14 have started? I'm trying to get a -- I want to  
15 make sure I'm understanding the range of years.

16           ARNAUD LACAZE: The test started on the  
17 dynamic track in November of 2016.

18           ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So then you're  
19 saying by November of 2018, you would have had  
20 access in 4 kilometres?

21           ARNAUD LACAZE: In 2018, so it was --  
22 it was in 2017, I guess.

23           ANTHONY IMBESI: 2017.

24           ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, that we -- I don't  
25 know exactly when, but at a certain point, yes, we

1 were able to -- yes, to have access to these -- we  
2 were able -- step by step, we were able to -- to go  
3 in the tunnel, to go in the wayside -- I don't  
4 remember exactly the date, but it was not at the  
5 beginning for sure. Step by step, they -- they --  
6 they start to give us -- to give us access,  
7 according to the progress in terms of  
8 infrastructure.

9 ANTHONY IMBESI: So what was the  
10 implication, then, of not having access to 4  
11 kilometres? What were you not able to do given  
12 just 2 kilometres?

13 ARNAUD LACAZE: So you don't have the  
14 possibility to -- to do a lot of full -- full --  
15 how can I say that? -- full traction or full speed  
16 because you have this limitation of 2 -- 2  
17 kilometres. And after that is the number of LRVs  
18 on these -- on the 2 kilometres of track, because  
19 you have LRV 2, so Alstom doing some tests; you  
20 have Thales doing some dynamic PICO testing on  
21 these tracks, and you have the City doing some  
22 training.

23 So at the end, you start to accumulate  
24 more and more train on this 2 kilometre of track,  
25 and if you had also the work that they also needed

1 to do on this track to install -- to install or to  
2 correct some -- some issues, yes, at the end, it's  
3 starting to be very -- very crowded, let's say.

4 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So it was  
5 congested and then the -- your inability to get to  
6 the max speed that was required.

7 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes.

8 ANTHONY IMBESI: Were there any other  
9 issues -- and I know you'd mentioned -- I  
10 believe -- were there power issues with respect to  
11 the track? Were there issues -- so even with the 2  
12 kilometres that you were given, were there factors  
13 that prevented you from performing your testing on  
14 those kilometres at any point in time?

15 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. But the first one  
16 is -- is the gauge of the track. So the -- the  
17 first time that we go -- went outside, we -- we  
18 realized that the gauge was not -- was not correct,  
19 so we -- we stop -- we stop -- we stop that, and we  
20 asked OLRTC to put the correct gauge of -- gauge of  
21 the -- of the track.

22 Finally, they request us to use a train  
23 to push -- because we've installed a system that --  
24 that the train will push the track and the track  
25 would be as -- the correct length or the correct

1 gauge with -- with the train, so they asked us to  
2 do that. We -- we -- with some expert, experience,  
3 we think about that, and then okay, finally we  
4 accept to do that, to use the train number 2 to --  
5 to push -- to push the track to the correct gauge.  
6 So we did that on the 2 kilometres, and we asked --  
7 we asked OLRTC first to correct this -- this issue  
8 on the other -- on the -- on the full line, for  
9 everywhere.

10                   And so it was our discussion with them,  
11 and then finally, a couple of months after that,  
12 they came back to us accepting the fact that  
13 effectively they will have to change their -- the  
14 system because they were -- they were not able to  
15 maintain the gauge. After -- after the winter  
16 season or with it, the track was -- was moving  
17 too -- too fast, and it was due to some clips -- I  
18 don't know the technical issues, but they had to  
19 change the way to maintain the track on the -- on  
20 the ground.

21                   So that meant that it was -- honestly,  
22 it was very difficult for -- for them to admit  
23 that, but, finally, they admitted that they needed  
24 to change -- to change that, yes.

25                   ANTHONY IMBESI: So just for the

1 record, then, gauge is the distance between the two  
2 rails?

3 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, the gauge is the  
4 distance between -- yes, between the two rails.

5 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so was the gauge  
6 just inconsistent throughout the entire track, or  
7 was it -- was it too narrow in all locations?

8 ARNAUD LACAZE: It was inconsistent.  
9 Sometimes -- you -- it's a very precise -- precise  
10 measurement. If I remember well, you need to be  
11 plus 1 and minus 3 millimetres. You have to  
12 respect this -- this range. And we asked OLRT to  
13 give us exactly the -- the gauge on all the track,  
14 to be sure that we had something consistent because  
15 we realized it was not consistent. Sometimes it  
16 was too narrow, sometimes it was too tight. It was  
17 very unpredictable. So we -- we had this issue at  
18 first with -- with the -- with the track, yes.

19 ANTHONY IMBESI: And does that prevent  
20 you from being able to utilize the track?

21 ARNAUD LACAZE: We refused at the  
22 beginning, yeah. We told them we don't -- we don't  
23 want to go outside if the range is not correct.

24 ANTHONY IMBESI: But why would that be?  
25 What's the implication of having the gauge off in

1 the way that it was?

2 ARNAUD LACAZE: Well, you can damage --  
3 you can damage the wheels.

4 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so in terms of  
5 OLRTC, were you the main person of contact between  
6 Alstom and OLRTC during your time on the project?

7 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. Yes. As the  
8 project director, yes.

9 ANTHONY IMBESI: So what would have  
10 been the nature of your contact with OLRTC? What  
11 is it that you were handling?

12 ARNAUD LACAZE: What do you mean by  
13 "the nature"?

14 ANTHONY IMBESI: Well, were you dealing  
15 with all circumstances? Like, were you dealing  
16 with commercial issues, technical issues,  
17 scheduling issues?

18 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yes, I mean, I  
19 deal -- I don't remember exactly at that time what  
20 I was doing with them, but yes, I had daily contact  
21 with them in terms of -- in terms of schedule,  
22 commercial issues, of course technical, but I'm  
23 not -- even if I am an engineer, I'm -- I'm no more  
24 a technical guy, so it was mainly my team that was  
25 dealing with them. I was mainly here to be aware

1 of the technical situation, support my team or  
2 to -- on the explanation, and find a mitigation  
3 plan or find some solution with -- with OLRTC.

4 But my main target is to keep the  
5 relationship with OLRTC or with the customer, if  
6 you want, and yes, dealing with all these aspects,  
7 schedule, commercial, technical, with the help, of  
8 course, of -- of the team behind me.

9 ANTHONY IMBESI: Who were -- who were  
10 your counterparts at OLRTC? Who was it that you  
11 were dealing with?

12 ARNAUD LACAZE: It was a man at the  
13 beginning. I don't remember his name. And after  
14 that, it was Sharon -- Sharon Oakley. Yes, Sharon  
15 Oakley. The first man, I don't remember his name.

16 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And you touched  
17 on --

18 ARNAUD LACAZE: It was a contract --  
19 for the contract and project aspect. For the  
20 technical, it was Mr. Bergeron.

21 ANTHONY IMBESI: Jacques Bergeron?

22 ARNAUD LACAZE: Jacques Bergeron, yes.  
23 Yes, for the technical aspect. Because he was a  
24 technical guy but also a project manager, so I was  
25 dealing with him for most -- for general -- general

1 topics in terms of technical. But it was mainly --  
2 it was mainly -- the main counterpart was Sharon.

3 ANTHONY IMBESI: Was Dr. Oakley?

4 ARNAUD LACAZE: Dr. Oakley, yes.

5 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And so turning  
6 then to Jacques Bergeron, was he the individual  
7 that was responsible for systems integration on  
8 OLRTC's end?

9 ARNAUD LACAZE: He was -- yes, he  
10 was -- he was responsible of -- he was responsible  
11 of the integration, and he helped by -- he was  
12 helped by a Mr. Fitzgerald. Mr. Fitzgerald, who  
13 was -- Mr. Fitzgerald for Thales. Mr. Bergeron  
14 was, I would say, the lead, and after that, he had  
15 some specific -- specific person dedicated for some  
16 specific system.

17 ANTHONY IMBESI: So Mr. Fitzgerald, is  
18 that Frank Fitzgerald?

19 ARNAUD LACAZE: Frank Fitzgerald, yes.  
20 Yeah.

21 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And so -- and I  
22 know that we've spoken a little bit earlier today  
23 about integration, but could you just describe for  
24 me OLRTC's approach to systems integration. How  
25 did it approach that facet of the project?

1                   ARNAUD LACAZE: I cannot say. It  
2 was -- honestly, I -- I cannot say it was an  
3 integration.

4                   ANTHONY IMBESI: What do you mean by  
5 that?

6                   ARNAUD LACAZE: I mean -- I mean, it  
7 was a lot of -- it was clearly a lack of  
8 integration. It was -- based -- based on my  
9 experience in the past and also present experience,  
10 it was not -- it was clearly a lack of integration  
11 or -- or management.

12                   When you -- when you do an integration,  
13 you -- you take all the responsibility, and you --  
14 you make sure that both parties will communicate  
15 together. Anything that's -- if it's not the case,  
16 you will bring this guy in the room and say, okay,  
17 now we'll fix the issue. You don't try to -- you  
18 don't try to -- to work with -- with one of -- one  
19 of the parties and leave the other party in the  
20 dark and come back a couple of months or one year  
21 after that, saying, okay, by the way, you -- you  
22 missed -- you missed some -- some things, so -- no.  
23 It's not like this.

24                   When you do an integration, you --  
25 really, the guy or -- here to link everybody all

1 together. And it's -- honestly, it's key. And I'm  
2 talking about my past experience, but I'm also  
3 talking about my current experience doing this  
4 integration. You need to do these things.  
5 (Indiscernible). It's not -- I'm talking --  
6 honestly, I'm talking very free here. I'm not  
7 working anymore with Alstom. I'm at -- honestly,  
8 OLRTC missed this -- this integration, missed this  
9 link of -- this link between -- between both  
10 companies.

11 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so is that a  
12 failure on OLRTC's part to -- to manage that  
13 process? Is -- is it an issue of collaboration?  
14 Like, what specifically would you have expected to  
15 see happen that didn't happen?

16 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. For -- for me,  
17 it's the main -- the main subject of this project.  
18 The -- as -- how can I say that? As a -- as a  
19 customer, you need -- because at the end, you will  
20 use this product, so as a customer, you need to --  
21 to make everything happen. You need to make the  
22 link between your supplier. You cannot -- you  
23 cannot say, okay, I will let the supplier do what  
24 they want. No, the supplier has their own  
25 contract, their own objective. The integrator or

1 the customer, you are here to -- to make the link  
2 and be sure that you will receive something at the  
3 end that you will be able to use.

4 So you have to do this effort. You  
5 have to do the -- to do the -- to do these things  
6 happen. And to do that, you have to communicate,  
7 and you have to understand what your Supplier A is  
8 saying, what your Supplier B is saying, and try to  
9 find -- and trying to match and try to -- to be  
10 able to mitigate everything.

11 And yes, it's -- it was clearly a --  
12 clearly a -- a lack of collaboration on the -- on  
13 this project, yes.

14 ANTHONY IMBESI: Did you feel that  
15 those at OLRTC had the necessary experience to  
16 perform the job?

17 ARNAUD LACAZE: Well, honestly, I don't  
18 know. I will not judge their past experience or  
19 their -- if they -- if they have put at this place,  
20 I will say that it was a choice of their  
21 management, so -- the only thing I can say, it's --  
22 that the collaboration was not here. I will not  
23 judge on their -- no, I will not judge on their  
24 capacity or not to do -- to the job. I'm not here  
25 to do that.

1           Just a contestation, at the end, the  
2 collaboration was clearly not here, between us,  
3 between OLRTC, and between the other third party.

4           ANTHONY IMBESI: The other -- are you  
5 speaking primarily about Thales?

6           ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yes, yes, Thales  
7 was the main -- the main contributor, yes.

8           ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And so in  
9 terms, then, of dealing with integration, what was  
10 Alstom's understanding, then, of what OLRTC's  
11 integration responsibilities were?

12          ARNAUD LACAZE: You -- you -- as an --  
13 because on this -- in this project, Alstom had no  
14 direct contract with -- with Thales. So you -- we  
15 cannot go -- we cannot go to Thales, saying, okay,  
16 you need to do that, that, or that, because we  
17 don't know their contract. We don't know at the  
18 end what they signed in terms of contract and in  
19 terms of requirement.

20          So once again, this role of integration  
21 must be done by OLRTC because OLRTC has a contract  
22 with Alstom and has a contract with -- with Thales.  
23 So we are here to make this integration clearly for  
24 good. So they are here to facilitate the  
25 discussion and the collaboration between those two

1 companies, and they are here to take the decision  
2 and say -- because -- okay -- they know what  
3 exactly is the contract between the two, so they  
4 are here to say -- to take the decision and to  
5 freeze, at the end, the interfaces, saying, okay,  
6 Alstom, you will receive this kind of equipment  
7 from -- from -- from Thales; here is all the  
8 interfaces, so build your train according that.  
9 They have to do this kind of job.

10 They have to also -- so they have to  
11 follow us in terms of preparation of the train, to  
12 receive -- to receive this equipment, and they have  
13 to follow Thales to respect this integration --  
14 these interfaces and to respect the scope of -- of  
15 the work. They have to do -- they have to do these  
16 kinds of things. And when we have an issue, the  
17 integrator is here to -- first to mitigate and, at  
18 the end, to take a decision.

19 ANTHONY IMBESI: So to make decisions  
20 to deal with issues that arise during the  
21 integration process?

22 ARNAUD LACAZE: Exactly, yes. Yeah.

23 ANTHONY IMBESI: And then --

24 ARNAUD LACAZE: And an issue can be a  
25 variation order or a technical issue from us, from

1 Alstom, but also from Thales. It's a -- in both --  
2 it's in both directions. We need to -- we need to  
3 understand and to find a -- and to help to find a  
4 solution for both -- for -- for Alstom and for --  
5 for Thales.

6 ANTHONY IMBESI: How would you describe  
7 the working relationship between Alstom and Thales?

8 ARNAUD LACAZE: It was -- at the  
9 beginning, it was -- it was collaborative, I would  
10 say, because we -- even if it was delayed -- when  
11 I -- when I arrive on the project, we were able  
12 to -- to start -- we were able to start the static  
13 PICO test. It was in September or October 2016.

14 After that, it was clearly a  
15 contract -- a contractual relationship because they  
16 understand and we understand that we had no  
17 direct -- direct contract or -- together, so it was  
18 a -- it was a -- purely a contractual -- a  
19 contractual relationship. At my level, I will say  
20 that. By -- I would say not by chance, but this  
21 is -- this is something natural: The guy on the --  
22 onsite, the technical guy, because we were every  
23 day working together, we were able, at the end, to  
24 find some solution. We were able to try to -- to  
25 mitigate as -- as much as we can some technical

1 issues.

2 ANTHONY IMBESI: Do you feel there was  
3 sufficient information sharing between Thales and  
4 Alstom?

5 ARNAUD LACAZE: No, no. Clearly, no.  
6 No, no. We discovered -- we tried to freeze an  
7 interface baseline early in the project, and we  
8 discover -- we discover -- I think it was in May,  
9 with LRV 5, it was in April or May 2017 that,  
10 finally, the -- the configuration that -- that was  
11 frozen in 1 year before was not good anymore.

12 After that, when we start to do some  
13 static PICO test or dynamic PICO tests, we realized  
14 that we -- we needed to do a lot of modification  
15 inside the system. So clearly it was not -- it was  
16 not transparent.

17 And again, I'm not blaming -- I'm not  
18 blaming Thales because they have some technical  
19 issue. It's normal. It's normal to have technical  
20 issues. I'm -- I'm -- I'm just pointing here the  
21 fact that the collaboration and the transparency  
22 was not here.

23 ANTHONY IMBESI: So if it's -- if it's  
24 normal to have some technical issues, then what is  
25 it that gives rise to your comment that there

1 wasn't enough transparency?

2 ARNAUD LACAZE: Because it was too  
3 late. It was too late. We -- we should have been  
4 aware of the functionality of the system earlier in  
5 the project and not discover when you do the test  
6 and when you try to integrate that, finally, the  
7 system is not what we have -- what we had in the  
8 specification.

9 It's -- it's not a -- it's -- for  
10 Thales, it was not a new product. It was something  
11 that already exists. So you can -- as I say, it is  
12 normal you have -- it's a technical project.  
13 It's -- we are in the industry. It's normal to  
14 have issues, but a lot of things should have been  
15 raised a lot of months before. So -- after that,  
16 it's too late. You -- first, you create  
17 frustration in the team, and you create retrofit  
18 activities, and this is what we had at the end of  
19 this -- of this project, a lot of retrofit linked  
20 to -- linked to -- to Thales.

21 ANTHONY IMBESI: Did the -- does the  
22 fact that Thales and Alstom are competitors in the  
23 train control system market, did that impact the  
24 relationship in any way?

25 ARNAUD LACAZE: No. No, because

1 it's -- honestly, no, because we are rolling stock,  
2 and we are not -- we are not the -- a system team,  
3 so no.

4 And, again, it's -- it's not something  
5 new for Alstom to work with -- with third parties,  
6 and so we -- we used to -- to -- they used to work  
7 with -- with Bombardier. At that time, it was a  
8 competitor, but we used to have some contract with  
9 Bombardier, same thing for -- for Thales and for  
10 others.

11 ANTHONY IMBESI: So in terms of it --  
12 it sounds like -- as if you're saying that the  
13 design kept evolving to a certain extent from what  
14 you're being provided by Thales. Is that fair?

15 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. Yeah.

16 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so -- so how did  
17 that play out in practice, then? How did Alstom  
18 respond to the evolving design that it was  
19 receiving?

20 ARNAUD LACAZE: First -- first, we --  
21 we alert OLRTC first that in terms of -- from a  
22 technical point of view, it was clearly not aligned  
23 with the specification that we agreed, and so we --  
24 we wanted to have some explanation it's -- from  
25 OLRTC about this change and, similarly, a

1 confirmation. And if -- because maybe it was an  
2 error from Thales. I don't know. But as soon as  
3 OLRTC confirmed that, effectively, what we tested  
4 affected the new functionality of the new system of  
5 Thales, we request -- we request a variation order,  
6 and we -- we requested an extension of time also  
7 because, at that time, we knew that it would have a  
8 huge impact for -- for the schedule, and we are  
9 talking about more than 300 points of connection.  
10 It's -- it's a huge, complex system, the ATC  
11 system, and the interface is -- yeah, definitely,  
12 we knew that we had to -- to change a lot of things  
13 in our train.

14 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so are those the  
15 retrofit issues that you alluded to earlier in  
16 terms of the integration with Thales's system?

17 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes.

18 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so you had  
19 mentioned that the evolving design wasn't in line  
20 with the specification that you'd agreed upon with  
21 OLRTC, and are you speaking about the contractual  
22 requirement between Alstom and OLRTC to have a  
23 finalized CBTC design early on in the project, or  
24 what are you referring to?

25 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, I'm referring to

1 that. It's -- as I mentioned, it's -- it's key,  
2 during the design phase, to freeze -- to freeze  
3 your interfaces, because you will build your train  
4 according to these interfaces. I don't know if --  
5 if a system required -- required to have three  
6 inputs, you will -- you will build your train with  
7 maybe four inputs because you still need to have a  
8 spare, but you will build your train with four wire  
9 to -- four, three wire to connect with this system.

10 If you come back 1 or 2 years later,  
11 saying, oh, by the way, it's not three, it's five,  
12 now, yes, you -- you have a big issue because you  
13 need to -- to rethink your -- your electrical  
14 system and rethink your production to add a wire.

15 It's just an example, but it's --  
16 that's why you need -- you need to freeze all the  
17 interface earlier in the -- in the design phase.  
18 And I mentioned this number of three or four  
19 because as a rolling stock manufacturer, you know  
20 that, during the tests, or you know that during the  
21 project you will have to do some changes, so you --  
22 you put a small amount of provision, but when you  
23 come back with a system that is completely  
24 different, it's -- it's -- your -- your system is  
25 no more able to support that, so you have to

1 rethink everything.

2 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so during your  
3 time at the project, would you have reviewed the  
4 Alstom subcontract with OLRTC?

5 ARNAUD LACAZE: The -- the what?  
6 The...

7 ANTHONY IMBESI: When you were involved  
8 in the project, would you have reviewed Alstom's  
9 subcontract with OLRTC?

10 ARNAUD LACAZE: With -- my contract  
11 with OLRTC?

12 ANTHONY IMBESI: Yes.

13 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, of course.

14 ANTHONY IMBESI: You were familiar with  
15 the contract at the time?

16 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yeah, yes. It's --  
17 it's part of the handover that I -- I met with --  
18 with Nadia at that time. We do a handover in terms  
19 of the -- the technical aspects, situation of the  
20 project versus the contract to clearly understand  
21 where we are in the contract. We -- in conformity  
22 to the contract, do we have some pending waiver?  
23 Do we have some risk, difficulties? Do we have  
24 some variation order? It's -- it's part of the  
25 package that I am -- that every project manager or

1 director need to -- need to do with these  
2 predecessors, so...

3 ANTHONY IMBESI: So in terms of the  
4 specific contractual requirement that I had  
5 mentioned, then, it is my understanding that the  
6 contract required Thales to deliver a finalized  
7 CBTC specification by April of 2013. Do you recall  
8 that?

9 ARNAUD LACAZE: Oh, I don't recall the  
10 date, honestly, but I recall because it was -- it  
11 was part of the subcontract that we were supposed  
12 to receive a full -- a full system, validated and  
13 integrated. When I said "integrated," it's in one  
14 piece. After that, what was supposed to be done in  
15 2014, honestly, I don't remember, but I remember  
16 that we were supposed to receive this, clearly,  
17 yes, because -- because this -- because it was part  
18 of the dilemma that we -- that we had at that time.

19 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so is it practical  
20 in these types of projects to have a finalized CBTC  
21 specification within the first 2 or 3 months of the  
22 project?

23 ARNAUD LACAZE: In terms of interface,  
24 yes. Yes. It's -- but it's like -- it's like with  
25 all of our systems. When I receive a compressor --

1 like, for -- from a supplier, for example --

2 ANTHONY IMBESI: A what, I'm sorry?

3 ARNAUD LACAZE: I will take an example  
4 from another system, a compressor or -- yes. So  
5 let's take the example of a compressor. From this  
6 supplier, I'm receiving an equipment fully  
7 integrated, a compressor, and with this supplier,  
8 and earlier in the project, at the beginning of the  
9 project, they will tell me, okay, I will do my job  
10 inside this box, but I need to communicate with  
11 your train, I don't know, two inputs and two  
12 outputs, so prepare your train to connect to my  
13 system two output and two -- two input, and that's  
14 it.

15 So this is a deal that we -- we have  
16 with all the supplier. Of course, as a -- because  
17 as an integrator, we'll -- we'll check with them  
18 what we do inside this box to be sure that, in  
19 terms of functionality, it's in conformity with  
20 what we want. But in terms of interface and in  
21 terms of production, it's only that. You -- you  
22 give me a box, I will plug your box in my train,  
23 and after that, relay the software and relay the  
24 validation, be sure that the communication is okay.

25 And this is clearly what we were

1 expecting from Thales. Of course, Thales is a  
2 little bit more complicated because it's a safety  
3 system. But we said, okay, give us a box; give us,  
4 effectively, what you need in terms of  
5 connectivity; we'll prepare the train. When your  
6 box will arrive, we'll put the box in the train,  
7 connect everything, and we'll start the validation.

8 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so what I -- I'm  
9 sorry. I didn't mean to cut you off there.

10 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, that's why I said,  
11 yes, you need, absolutely, at the beginning of the  
12 project, to define these interfaces.

13 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so I guess what  
14 I'm trying to understand, then, is does Thales need  
15 anything from Alstom in terms of design  
16 characteristics of the train in order for it to be  
17 able to prepare a finalized CBTC specification?

18 ARNAUD LACAZE: That's why -- that's  
19 why we did the -- that's why it's mandatory to  
20 do -- to do this meeting, this technical meeting  
21 with them at the beginning. It's an exchange with  
22 Thales: I need to install -- I don't know, two  
23 sensors in your -- in your bogie or under the  
24 underframe. The -- the -- the company present to  
25 us their interfaces, the functionality of their

1 system, and we deal with that to design the  
2 interface and say, okay, let's prepare the train  
3 to -- you know, to -- with a number of space, a  
4 number of sensors, a number of cables, wiring and  
5 so on.

6 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And so that's  
7 an interaction that would typically happen at the  
8 very start of a -- a project?

9 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. But understand  
10 that we need this information to start the  
11 production. If we need to -- if we need put two  
12 wire, or if we need to dedicate a specific place or  
13 area in the train for -- for one system, we need to  
14 understand that at the beginning, very early on in  
15 the project.

16 ANTHONY IMBESI: So we've gone a bit  
17 more than halfway here, so perhaps we'll take a  
18 break. If we could go off the record.

19 -- RECESS AT 3:36 --

20 -- UPON RESUMING AT 3:50 --

21 ANTHONY IMBESI: So, Mr. Lacaze, just  
22 following a bit more on where we left off, talking  
23 about integration - and specifically I'm speaking  
24 about integration with Alstom and Thales - were  
25 there regular meetings that were held, hosted by

1 OLRTC involving OLRTC, Alstom, and Thales?

2 ARNAUD LACAZE: Was there a regular  
3 meeting? From what I understood, a regular meeting  
4 was -- until June or July 2016. After that, when I  
5 was here, we -- we did the static PICO test with  
6 them in September or October 2016 at Hornell, and  
7 following that, we had no regular meeting with  
8 OLRTC. I don't recall specific -- specific  
9 meeting -- or technical meeting, I mean.

10 We had some -- some meetings because --  
11 with OLRTC and Thales, but in terms of organization  
12 of the tests. But in terms of technical meetings,  
13 no, we had no new technical meeting with them, and  
14 requests to redo technical meetings when we  
15 realized in -- with LRV 5 in May 2017 that we had  
16 some issues. The system was not -- was not the  
17 system -- the system that we received and we tested  
18 on LRV 5 was not aligned with the specification, so  
19 we requested OLRT to -- to redo -- to redo some --  
20 some technical meeting to redefine an interface --  
21 a new interface specification, if you will.

22 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So the  
23 technical meetings that were held at a certain  
24 point in the project, those stopped around June,  
25 July of 2017, before you became involved in the

1 project?

2 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes because, in fact,  
3 for us - and for Thales, I guess - the interfaces  
4 was -- were frozen, so we worked and we completed  
5 all the trains based on this interface. We did --  
6 we did the static PICO test in -- as I mentioned,  
7 in September or October, and after that, we redo --  
8 so when we redo a static PICO test in -- I think in  
9 May, the following year, on LRV 5. So we didn't  
10 have the -- we didn't have, at that time, a  
11 dedicated technical meeting with them because we  
12 were -- we were working with the interface frozen a  
13 couple of months ago.

14 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So the -- the  
15 interface had been frozen. Was it that there was  
16 no need for those meetings, or was there another  
17 reason that they were no longer held?

18 ARNAUD LACAZE: Interfaces was -- was  
19 frozen before, so -- right -- I don't -- I don't  
20 know if we -- we had some needs, no. We were  
21 working on this -- we were working on this subject,  
22 on the interface, so -- you know, it's -- we had no  
23 specific reason to do -- to do a technical meeting.

24 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay.

25 ARNAUD LACAZE: The interface was

1 frozen, you did the test; of course, you -- you saw  
2 some issues, but you knew that Thales will advise a  
3 subject, so we had no -- no specific point until --  
4 until the next phase, at that time, which was the  
5 test on LRV 5, of -- of the system.

6 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so could you just  
7 explain to me, then -- so I think you had said that  
8 was in May of 2017 with respect to LRV 5. What was  
9 the testing that you were doing, and what was the  
10 issue that you had encountered?

11 ARNAUD LACAZE: In fact, if I remember  
12 well, that contract, Thales needed to train Alstom  
13 to do static PICO test, so if you want a static  
14 test on two vehicles, so we -- they did that on LRV  
15 1, and the next, in terms of sequence, was Train 5.  
16 So what we did, in fact, at -- at Ottawa, we start  
17 in May of 2017, we did what was in the contract,  
18 saying, okay, we have a train ready. The train is  
19 prepared with -- according the interface that we --  
20 that we design, and so we start to integrated  
21 your -- your equipment, we put your equipment  
22 inside our train, so let's start. Let's restart  
23 the static PICO test. We'll redo it with you, and  
24 it will be, like, a training for us, to do -- to do  
25 the -- to do this test, because we were supposed to

1 do this test with -- on each of the vehicles, to  
2 validate that the connect -- the connection between  
3 the two systems agreed. The idea isn't to validate  
4 the system of Thales. The idea is to validate the  
5 interface, that you put a signal in -- I don't  
6 know. The system is on; then you switch off and  
7 the system is off, for example.

8 ANTHONY IMBESI: And was that the VOBC  
9 rack in particular?

10 ARNAUD LACAZE: It was a VOBC rack,  
11 yes. The idea is to put in the VOBC and to  
12 validate and -- the couple of interface that we  
13 define -- we define all together.

14 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay.

15 ARNAUD LACAZE: The idea is to -- it's  
16 like this for all the systems. The idea is to  
17 validate that the interface integration between the  
18 rolling stock and System XYZ - so Thales here - is  
19 correct.

20 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay.

21 ARNAUD LACAZE: Because we don't  
22 validate the functionality of the system. We  
23 validate only the interface.

24 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So Thales was  
25 going to do the same two and, at the same time,

1 train Alstom and how to do it, and was Alstom then  
2 responsible for doing --

3 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes.

4 ANTHONY IMBESI: -- the static PICO  
5 test for the balance of the fleet?

6 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yes. But this is  
7 something very classic: The rolling stock  
8 integrator is responsible to install the equipment  
9 and to relate that the interface is good.

10 ANTHONY IMBESI: That's typical in  
11 rolling stock, to do it that way, for the rolling  
12 stock to do it?

13 ARNAUD LACAZE: That's typical, yes.  
14 You verify that you have a good connectivity  
15 between your train and the system.

16 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so what was the  
17 issue, then, that was discovered with LRV 5 in May  
18 2017?

19 ARNAUD LACAZE: At first, we -- we  
20 realized that we didn't -- we didn't receive a full  
21 rack. We received several components that we  
22 needed to install, and the -- the deal for us, as  
23 I -- I took the example of the compressor, for  
24 example. We receive a full system, and the idea  
25 was Thales was to receive a full system and not to

1 receive one equipment, another one, and do -- and  
2 request Alstom to -- to make the integration and to  
3 do the connection between the system. The VOBC is  
4 a system, so we don't know the connectivity, and we  
5 don't know the link between two electronic box, for  
6 example.

7           So it was a surprise to do that, so  
8 same thing: I sent a letter to OLRTC saying that  
9 it was not the deal, and we don't -- we are not  
10 Thales, so we don't know the connectivity between  
11 the systems, so it was the first -- the first  
12 contestation.

13           The second one, we realized that,  
14 finally, we need -- we needed more connectivity, so  
15 we needed more wire to -- to -- to interface with  
16 us because we were -- we didn't receive a full  
17 rack. We received several electronic box, so we  
18 needed to increase the number of interfaces, the  
19 number of connectivity. And most of all, we  
20 realized that we need to do some tests inside --  
21 inside the electronic box, which, clearly, is not  
22 possible.

23           ANTHONY IMBESI: I'm sorry, inside  
24 what?

25           ARNAUD LACAZE: Inside the system. We

1 need to open the system and to start to validate  
2 inside the electronic, so it clearly was a no-go  
3 for us. You're not supposed to open or to do  
4 modification or to do some tests inside -- inside a  
5 sub -- the third -- the third supplier system. We  
6 need -- we need to provide to the integrator -- so  
7 to the rolling stock integrator, we need to provide  
8 a fully validated, fully functional system. The  
9 static PICO tests were not here to validate the  
10 system or to tune their system. The static PICO  
11 test was here to be sure that the system is able to  
12 communicate with the train. That's it. And it --  
13 it was also a big issue, and we said to OLRTC that  
14 we will not do the test if it's -- if it's like  
15 this.

16 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So -- so Alstom  
17 expected to have a fully assembled VOBC rack that  
18 was sufficiently tested and -- and tuned so that it  
19 could be essentially plugged into the rolling stock  
20 for the static PICO testing to be performed. Is  
21 that fair?

22 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. As we do for --  
23 with all -- all vehicles.

24 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so how was that  
25 issue dealt with? How was it resolved?

1                   ARNAUD LACAZE: It took a couple of --  
2 honestly, it took a couple of months. First, in  
3 terms of -- in terms of integration, purely  
4 integration, we -- we redefined with OLRTC an ICD,  
5 an interface specification, which led to the huge  
6 amount of retrofit that we -- that we had in 2018,  
7 because we needed to -- to add more wire, to change  
8 the cabling, to change the routing, the routing of  
9 some cables. So it was -- at first, it was the  
10 main -- the main physical subject, I would say,  
11 because it was no more a single rack. It was  
12 several racks. So at least to the main -- to this  
13 main huge retrofit.

14                   And concerning the tests, we refused to  
15 do the tests. We accept to do some tests, but --  
16 some tests linked to the new interface, in fact,  
17 because they changed the interface, but we refused  
18 to do -- to do -- to do all the tests inside their  
19 equipment. And so we said to OLRTC, we will not go  
20 in that way. It's -- it's a safety system. We  
21 don't know the system. And finally, the deal  
22 with -- to -- we deal with Thales to do it, and I  
23 know that Thales sent a variation order to OLRTC to  
24 do that.

25                   So, finally, Thales did these static

1 PICO tests, but you will understand that, at the  
2 beginning, the static PICO test was supposed to  
3 have maybe taken, I don't know, half a day, because  
4 it was just a matter of maybe two or three  
5 connections. At the end, I don't know -- I don't  
6 know, today, what is it. But at the end, we spent  
7 more than 1 week per train to do the static PICO  
8 because we were not talking anymore about one full  
9 integrated validated system. We were talking about  
10 several systems to -- to communicate, all of them,  
11 all between them -- between them.

12 So it changed also the time needed per  
13 train to do -- to do -- to do the tests. That's  
14 why I request, again, variation order and an  
15 extension of time to OLRTC to explain that, first,  
16 we need to change the configuration of the train,  
17 but we also need more time to do the tests, so  
18 which will delay the acceptance of the -- of the  
19 train.

20 ANTHONY IMBESI: And I'm sorry, did you  
21 say that it -- it increased the time required to do  
22 the -- the test per train from half a day per train  
23 to 1 week per train?

24 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. From what I  
25 remember -- and maybe -- I might be -- you know,

1 you can check that with Yang or -- I don't know,  
2 the technical guy for Siemens -- or from Alstom,  
3 sorry, but from what I remember, yes, it was half a  
4 day, maybe 1 day at the beginning, and at the end,  
5 I remember to have spent -- to have spent 5 days on  
6 this subject, yes. Because we are talking about I  
7 think 11, possibly, test procedures to be done.

8 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so you were -- and  
9 you had indicated, then, that that impacted the  
10 acceptance of the trains.

11 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. Yes.

12 ANTHONY IMBESI: And that was the  
13 acceptance of the trains by OLRTC?

14 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes.

15 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so --

16 ARNAUD LACAZE: And that's -- with that  
17 additional time, you have -- you need to add that  
18 to your schedule.

19 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so was that the  
20 reason that Milestone 9 of Alstom's deliverables  
21 was revised to account for a provisional acceptance  
22 of the vehicles, or was that for another reason?

23 ARNAUD LACAZE: No, it was for another  
24 reason.

25 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. Could you

1 explain to me what the reasoning for that was,  
2 then.

3 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. Milestone 9,  
4 yeah, it was a provisional acceptance, but we  
5 realized also, with OLRTC, that Thales needed this  
6 train to do the dynamic PICO test. So it was  
7 something -- something -- okay -- we -- we didn't  
8 know that, but at least it's a contract between --  
9 between OLRTC and Thales. But they realized, at a  
10 certain point, that we needed the train to do  
11 the -- to do the dynamic PICO, so to do some tests  
12 after the delivery of the train by Alstom.

13 But in the contract, the contract was  
14 clear: It was qualification from -- qualification  
15 tests, some milestone - I don't remember the name -  
16 and at the end, an acceptance of the train, which  
17 means that even if the train is ready, I cannot  
18 give this train to OLRTC to do what they want  
19 because this train is still under the  
20 responsibility of Alstom.

21 So OLRTC came back to us saying that we  
22 need this train to do -- to do some tests with  
23 Thales, and I told them that you can't. To do  
24 that, you -- you need to accept the train, and to  
25 accept the train, you need the 32 trains to be

1 accepted, so you will not do anything before --  
2 before -- I don't know, May 2018, at the end of the  
3 contract.

4 And so that's why we -- we arrived  
5 to -- at this middle point, saying, Okay, let's  
6 accept this -- let's do a provisional acceptance  
7 train-per-train. So you will receive -- you will  
8 receive a provisional acceptance from OLRTC,  
9 Alstom. The train will be now under the  
10 responsibility of -- of OLRTC. You will start the  
11 warranty, and you will be able to use the train to  
12 do some activities linked to OLRTC - so training,  
13 so dynamic PICO from Thales, and so on. So it was  
14 a mechanism put in place to allow OLRTC to do their  
15 activities.

16 ANTHONY IMBESI: So -- and -- okay. So  
17 to make sure I understand that, then, so this  
18 dynamic testing that -- that Thales needed to do,  
19 that was not accounted for under Alstom's  
20 subcontract. There was nothing that provided for  
21 that --

22 ARNAUD LACAZE: No.

23 ANTHONY IMBESI: -- to your knowledge?

24 ARNAUD LACAZE: That is not something  
25 that -- even after -- even after we deliver the

1 train, they do their dynamic PICO, and -- and  
2 that's it. So it's -- it's something under the  
3 scope of work of Alstom.

4 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And in order to  
5 have the vehicles accepted by OLRTC, they had to  
6 all be accepted at the same time initially.

7 ARNAUD LACAZE: Initially, yes.

8 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay.

9 ARNAUD LACAZE: If I remember,  
10 Milestone 9 was something like this, final  
11 acceptance or acceptance of the 32 trains.

12 ANTHONY IMBESI: So at the time,  
13 then -- so after you had agreed to this modified  
14 milestone, for the trains that did receive  
15 provisional acceptance, were those, for all intents  
16 and purposes, completed by Alstom, or was there  
17 anything remaining for Alstom to do on those trains  
18 once it got them back =from OLRTC?

19 ARNAUD LACAZE: No, no, it was -- it  
20 was -- that's why it's also a provisional  
21 acceptance because, if you remember -- if you  
22 remember, at the beginning of our discussion, we  
23 said that some aspect of the light maintenance bay,  
24 some item of -- the MSF was not completed, so we  
25 continued the production, but some of the train

1 will have come back inside -- inside Alstom  
2 jurisdiction to be completed, so it -- it was well  
3 known by OLRTC that it's a provisional acceptance.

4           The train is under the control of  
5 OLRTC, but these trains still need to come back to  
6 Alstom at a certain point to do the retrofit  
7 activity or to complete what we were not able to do  
8 that because this provisional acceptance was made  
9 early in the -- in the -- in the project, early for  
10 me, when -- when I arrived. And so I think the  
11 first one to be provisionally accepted was train  
12 set 5, and so we are talking maybe -- I don't know,  
13 maybe June, July 2017.

14           So yes, they knew that this train will  
15 have to go back at a certain point to Alstom to be  
16 completed: first in terms of a test and in terms of  
17 retrofit.

18           ANTHONY IMBESI: So what testing, then,  
19 would Alstom then need to do for those  
20 provisionally accepted vehicles?

21           ARNAUD LACAZE: Well, for some of them,  
22 it was the testing, for example.

23           ANTHONY IMBESI: Oh, it was the testing  
24 that you weren't able to do because of a lack of  
25 the availability of the MSF?

1                   ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, exactly. Yeah.  
2     Some water test, some open point -- because we were  
3     not able to complete the -- the LMB test, this kind  
4     of -- this kind of subject.

5                   ANTHONY IMBESI: And so in doing it in  
6     terms of the provisional acceptance and the trains  
7     having to come back to Alstom to finish the testing  
8     and the retrofitting, did that impact Alstom's  
9     schedule in any way?

10                  ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. Yes, because we  
11     realized soon that we would have some conflict  
12     because Thales needs the train to do the dynamic  
13     PICO; the City needs the train to do their test, I  
14     guess; and we need to get this train back to  
15     complete the -- to complete the train.

16                  So -- like I say, at certain points,  
17     you -- you accumulate some -- some delays, and you  
18     have to -- you have to give priority to one of --  
19     one of the -- of the player. So...

20                  ANTHONY IMBESI: And so before you  
21     had -- before Alstom and OLRTC had agreed to this  
22     provisional acceptance framework, how was it  
23     supposed to work for the City of Ottawa training  
24     the operators? Were they to do their training  
25     after OLRTC had done final acceptance of the

1 vehicles, or was that ever contemplated to be done  
2 prior to that period of time?

3 ARNAUD LACAZE: Honestly, it was not  
4 something communicated to Alstom at that time. So  
5 what we understood based on the contract is,  
6 effectively, you deliver the 32 trains, and  
7 everybody will start what we have to do. So you do  
8 the -- at 9 milestone -- I don't remember -- yes, I  
9 think it's Milestone 9, so we do that. And after  
10 that, the City needs to train the guys. Thales  
11 need to do their tests and maybe -- maybe something  
12 else, I don't know, but it was the original -- the  
13 original contract was based on this.

14 ANTHONY IMBESI: The original contract  
15 was Alstom finishes it, where it delivers all the  
16 trains and everyone else does what they need to do  
17 in respect of testing and training?

18 ARNAUD LACAZE: Exactly.

19 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. Did that have  
20 any impact on the vehicles, doing it that way? You  
21 know, did it lead to more extensive retrofit work  
22 after they came back to Alstom?

23 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, because -- yes,  
24 because we had some issues in terms of -- the train  
25 provisionally accepted was no more under the

1 management of Alstom. And so we realize quickly  
2 that doing the dynamic PICO test, Siemens also did  
3 some changes, again, in the interface. They did  
4 some changes in the static PICO test.

5           If you remember, the static PICO test  
6 is under the responsibility of Alstom. So if you  
7 change the static PICO test, what does it mean for  
8 Alstom? Because we did the static PICO test at a  
9 certain point, so Thales did some modification like  
10 this.

11           And we -- so we had a lot of issues in  
12 terms of configuration. We delivered -- we  
13 delivered the train at a certain configuration -  
14 Configuration X, for example - and when we received  
15 back the train, we -- we realized that sometimes  
16 the configuration had changed from Thales, because  
17 it was the main system used by -- used for the  
18 train, and it was -- it was also a subject of  
19 discussion with OLRT because we realized that we  
20 start to change equipment inside the train with --  
21 we start to change some cabling inside their  
22 system, so the configuration changed a lot.

23           ANTHONY IMBESI: And so just during the  
24 evidence that you've just given, I just want to  
25 clarify for the record, you had mentioned Siemens

1 at one point, but was that a reference to Thales?

2 ARNAUD LACAZE: Excuse me, yes. Excuse  
3 me, yes. So Thales, sorry.

4 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. No, that's  
5 certainly fine.

6 And so in making those certain changes  
7 that you just had indicated that Thales made, did  
8 that require Alstom to redo any of the testing that  
9 it had already done previously?

10 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yeah. Yes, yes, for  
11 sure, yes. Yeah. We did, again, some static PICO  
12 test because the configuration changed, so -- and  
13 we did again some of the tests, to be sure that the  
14 system was still working properly.

15 ANTHONY IMBESI: So that would have had  
16 a further impact, then, on Alstom's schedule?

17 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. Again, impact on  
18 the -- on schedule. And, again, we sent letters to  
19 OLRTC to inform them officially that, first, for  
20 us, it was not possible to change the configuration  
21 like this, because it's a provisional acceptance.  
22 At a certain point, we'll have to do a final  
23 acceptance. And to do a final acceptance, we need  
24 to have a clear understanding of the configuration  
25 of -- of the train, in -- configuration and also

1 the serial number of each equipment and the  
2 revision of each equipment.

3 So we sent them a letter for that,  
4 and -- to stop, in fact, to do this change of if  
5 you do some change, inform -- inform us, inform  
6 Alstom. And the second point was the  
7 (indiscernible), again, yes, because we needed --  
8 we needed more time to redo some of the tests.

9 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so turning back,  
10 then, to something that I believe you touched on  
11 earlier, was Alstom's work delayed in any way by  
12 decisionmaking on the part of the City?

13 ARNAUD LACAZE: Before I came, it was  
14 linked -- mostly linked to the design. And when I  
15 was -- when I was here, it was mostly linked to the  
16 radio and, again, the interface. The interface was  
17 not frozen on the radio, so we -- we start --  
18 again, because we needed to -- to start the  
19 production, so we start with the radio that they  
20 were thinking, at that time, to use. And finally  
21 they changed their mind, they changed the radio,  
22 and they changed the interfaces of the radio.

23 And so it's -- it's created, again,  
24 some retrofits because we needed to change the  
25 interface again, the cabling and so on. And we ask

1 for that also variation order to OLRTC.

2 ANTHONY IMBESI: And did the fact that  
3 Alstom, in this case, didn't have a direct  
4 contractual relationship with the owner as you had  
5 you would have, for example, in the Montreal  
6 project that you were talking about, did that have  
7 an impact on the City's deliverables of these  
8 design decisions that it had to make?

9 ARNAUD LACAZE: Well, for me, yes.  
10 Yes. Clearly. Because when you have direct  
11 contact, you know the priority, so you will push  
12 your -- you will push your supplier, because you  
13 know that it's a huge impact. Going through OLRTC,  
14 I don't know, as a contractor for OLRTC with the  
15 City, but I'm pretty sure that we had a lot of  
16 other issues with the City.

17 And maybe -- and I say "maybe," but  
18 maybe the radio was not a priority for them, and  
19 they prefer at that time -- and this is normal.  
20 I'm not saying that it's not normal. But in terms  
21 of priority for them, it was maybe more important  
22 to focus on other aspects than focus on the radio,  
23 because for them, their contract delivers a radio,  
24 it's maybe something smaller. But for us, it was  
25 not -- again, it was an interface, so it was not so

1 small. That's why sometimes it's obvious better  
2 for us to deal directly with the subsupplier,  
3 especially when you have direct impacts like this.

4 ANTHONY IMBESI: Because that allows  
5 you to focus the issues on things that you require  
6 as opposed to having to deal with OLRTC as the  
7 integrator trying to manage those requests?

8 ARNAUD LACAZE: In fact, they should  
9 have someone focussing on this -- on this subject,  
10 on this integration.

11 ANTHONY IMBESI: Oh, OLRTC should have  
12 someone focussed on this question?

13 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. Focussed on this  
14 question, yes. On these interfaces clearly with  
15 us, yeah.

16 ANTHONY IMBESI: And as we talked about  
17 before, you didn't feel that that was there or that  
18 was sufficient?

19 ARNAUD LACAZE: No, for -- without a  
20 person with enough experience, no, it was not  
21 sufficient. It was not sufficient because we -- we  
22 were facing to this issue in the end with -- again,  
23 it was a huge -- a huge retrofit on this -- on this  
24 subject.

25 ANTHONY IMBESI: So in terms, then,

1 of -- of Alstom's scheduling, I know that you had  
2 spoken about the Version 5, V5 schedule that was in  
3 place just prior to your arrival at the project;  
4 correct?

5 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yeah.

6 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so following your  
7 involvement, were you dealing with OLRTC in respect  
8 of -- of scheduling issues?

9 ARNAUD LACAZE: Oh, yes, yes.

10 ANTHONY IMBESI: And --

11 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, it was -- it was  
12 one of -- yes, it's part of the activity of the  
13 project director to -- to inform -- to inform the  
14 customer of delays or potential delays, of issues,  
15 how we can mitigate them, and when -- if it's not  
16 possible, to -- to clearly tell them, okay, we have  
17 an issue; here is a re -- is a reschedule, so let's  
18 work together with -- to solve it.

19 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so during your  
20 time on the project, were there schedule disputes?  
21 Were there circumstances where, for example,  
22 refusals to the extensions where the position of  
23 OLRTC or other issues that led to disputes with  
24 respect to scheduling?

25 ARNAUD LACAZE: Every month.

1 ANTHONY IMBESI: I'm sorry?

2 ARNAUD LACAZE: Every month. Every  
3 month, they -- they never recognize -- they never  
4 recognized at all that -- the fact that we were  
5 facing some issues. And, again, some issues linked  
6 to Alstom. And I will be honest, we -- we were  
7 facing some issues, but we were also facing some  
8 issues with other subsupplier. So if -- if you do  
9 inventory of all these issues, every month, we -- I  
10 advised them that we had some issues that we  
11 needed -- we needed to have access to the track,  
12 for example; we needed to have a -- to have access  
13 to some parts of the LMB, that we needed some  
14 information, and yes, they always refused to  
15 discuss about any impact or any delays. So...

16 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so in terms of the  
17 delay, so you had just mentioned that there were  
18 some issues with some of your sub-subsuppliers. I  
19 take it that there were delays in obtaining parts  
20 and materials and things of that nature?

21 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yeah.

22 ANTHONY IMBESI: So those -- those  
23 would have been delays that were Alstom's  
24 responsibility, then; right?

25 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes, yeah.

1           ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And then you're  
2 also telling me that, through everything you were  
3 telling me today, you were also facing delays that  
4 Alstom believed were the responsibility of OLRTC?

5           ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes.

6           ANTHONY IMBESI: And that in dealing  
7 with OLRTC and these ongoing scheduling  
8 discussions, you were never granted any further  
9 extensions beyond that finalized V5 schedule?

10          ARNAUD LACAZE: No, I -- I -- I suggest  
11 them of -- I don't remember, V7, V9 schedule, but  
12 based on the reality of -- on -- of the project,  
13 and the reality is delays from Alstom and delays  
14 from OLRTC or Thales or -- or the other one.

15                 We were -- I did -- we did what we are  
16 supposed to do, so to explain to our customer, This  
17 is the situation of the project; this is where we  
18 can mitigate; this is what we can do, and sometimes  
19 this is where we will not be able to -- to  
20 mitigate. So at the end, we will have X weeks,  
21 months of delay.

22                 So this is what we did every month with  
23 them. Sometimes dedicated meeting -- I requested a  
24 dedicating meeting on the schedule with them to  
25 inform them of the situation and to also -- to also

1 receive from them -- try to receive from them also  
2 the reality of the infrastructure, because you  
3 cannot have 32 trains in March of 2018 if the  
4 infrastructure is not here, so it make no sense.

5           So that's why you need this  
6 collaboration. You need this discussion. Of  
7 course you will have some contractual --  
8 contractual dispute, okay, at a certain point, but  
9 at least you need to have this transparency and  
10 collaboration when -- with your suppliers, you need  
11 to clearly indicate all the input of the equation  
12 if you -- if you want to have something realistic.  
13 Otherwise, you will continue to push the date,  
14 saying, okay, you need to keep that date, but if  
15 you cannot -- if your supplier is not able to reach  
16 these dates, it makes no sense. And at a  
17 certain -- at a certain point, we arrived at this  
18 contradiction with them.

19           ANTHONY IMBESI: Sorry, a contradiction  
20 in when you were talking about delayed  
21 infrastructure?

22           ARNAUD LACAZE: Contradiction, yes.  
23 Contradiction where we knew that the infrastructure  
24 was not here, it was not ready, and the fact that  
25 they still wanted to -- to have all the 32

1 trains -- I don't remember. I think it was in  
2 February or March 2018, around these dates. Around  
3 the original -- the V5 schedule. So...

4 ANTHONY IMBESI: And was there a  
5 certain point, then, when Alstom would have come to  
6 understand that the original revenue service  
7 availability date of May of 2018 wouldn't be met?

8 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. Yes.

9 ANTHONY IMBESI: And how did that  
10 factor into the discussions with OLRTC on  
11 scheduling?

12 ARNAUD LACAZE: It was -- it was a  
13 start for us. It's -- we are -- we are -- in the  
14 industry, we know the business, so we know -- we  
15 know what is needed to make infrastructure, to make  
16 a system, train operational. So at a certain  
17 point, we tried -- it's -- it was our customer  
18 also, so you cannot -- you cannot go like this in  
19 front of them, but we tried to make them realize  
20 that we knew -- we knew the reality of the  
21 situation.

22 ANTHONY IMBESI: During your time on  
23 the project, did you or anyone at Alstom have any  
24 knowledge about any scheduling extensions that were  
25 granted to Thales?

1 ARNAUD LACAZE: To Thales, no, no, no.

2 ANTHONY IMBESI: So I'd just like to  
3 turn back to speaking about the MSF, the  
4 maintenance and storage facility in particular.  
5 Leaving aside the issues with access that we'd  
6 already talked about, how did you view the  
7 suitability of the MSF for the assembly of LRVs?

8 ARNAUD LACAZE: Suitability, you mean  
9 effective -- the -- the fact that it was well --  
10 well-built for -- for that?

11 ANTHONY IMBESI: Well, I guess what I'm  
12 driving at is, so leaving aside all the issues with  
13 the fact that you didn't have access to certain  
14 areas that you say were necessary, was it a  
15 suitable place to be assembling LRVs, and how does  
16 it compare to Alstom's other facilities?

17 ARNAUD LACAZE: No, no, no, it was --  
18 honestly, I was impressed when I arrived in  
19 September to -- of this facility. It -- it was --  
20 I don't like to use this terminology, but it's --  
21 because it's a software terminology, the agility,  
22 but it was very well think [sic] in terms of flow,  
23 in terms of production.

24 With -- with the time, with my  
25 industrial manager, we -- the flow of production

1 was good except to do the water test, we needed to  
2 go outside the production line and to go back.  
3 Because the water test was outside the production  
4 line, so it was -- it was a way of thinking of  
5 improvement for future -- a future contract, for  
6 example, to rethink the localization of the water  
7 bay, the water test in the production line.

8           Otherwise, it's -- honestly, it's a --  
9 it's a very good -- very good footprint. It's --  
10 everything is -- is well organized, and it's  
11 sufficient. So...

12           ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay.

13           ARNAUD LACAZE: Except this improvement  
14 that -- I don't know what they did with the new  
15 contract, but yes, it was something that we were  
16 thinking.

17           ANTHONY IMBESI: Was there sufficient  
18 space or capacity at the MSF to perform both the  
19 retrofit work and the serial production?

20           ARNAUD LACAZE: No, no, no, no.  
21 It's -- in terms of -- in terms of flow of  
22 production, it was good. If you have to add -- if  
23 you have to add a retrofit line, it was -- it was  
24 not fit to have -- to have the retrofit line. So  
25 yes, it was -- it was very -- it was very difficult

1 to find -- to find a place to be able to do  
2 retrofit. That's why we ask OLRTC to use the  
3 storage bay outside to effectively park some of the  
4 trains here, to be able to do some retrofit.

5 So we received the authorization of  
6 OLRTC to use one or two line - I don't remember -  
7 and went -- a scaffold, we put some infrastructure  
8 outside, to be able to do the retrofit outside --  
9 outside the production line inside.

10 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so with the MSF  
11 and the project being in Ottawa, did Alstom have  
12 any staffing challenges? Was it difficult to -- to  
13 obtain the sufficient number of employees or  
14 sufficient number of qualified employees for the  
15 project?

16 ARNAUD LACAZE: No, we had -- we had  
17 people coming from different -- different sites all  
18 over the world in terms of expertise. And locally,  
19 we -- we were -- we worked with a company -- I  
20 don't remember the name of this company, but this  
21 company was able to provide us -- we had a contract  
22 with them, and they were able to provide manpower  
23 to us in terms of production, in terms of quality  
24 and testing. So no, it -- it has never been an  
25 issue in terms of staffing.

1                   ANTHONY IMBESI: And in terms of the  
2 Canadian content requirements or the vehicles which  
3 you touched on at the start of the interview today,  
4 did those requirements pose any challenges to  
5 Alstom?

6                   ARNAUD LACAZE: It's at -- yes. It's  
7 mainly -- I would say mainly at the beginning,  
8 mainly, I guess, before I came on this project  
9 because, at that time, you were -- it was mandatory  
10 to build -- to build our supply chain and to build  
11 our new supplier, but we had a -- we had a team, a  
12 sourcing team and an industrial team to build -- to  
13 build -- to build this local frame with us, so...

14                   ANTHONY IMBESI: So did you feel that  
15 those --

16                   ARNAUD LACAZE: When I was here, it was  
17 not something -- it was behind me. It was most --  
18 during my time, it was most -- some production  
19 issues, but it's -- I would say it's normal. It's  
20 normal. Normal that -- it's not because the  
21 company was in Canada, if you understand what I  
22 mean. It's -- it was more -- it was more a  
23 production issue of maybe some of the supplier.  
24 The way -- the fact to develop a local supplier, it  
25 was -- it was before me.

1                   ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So you didn't  
2 see any real impacts, then, on the project as a  
3 result of the Canadian content requirement?

4                   ARNAUD LACAZE: No, because -- when I  
5 arrived, the footprint was already here, so all the  
6 supplier was -- were already identified, and -- and  
7 they -- they started the production when I arrived.

8                   ANTHONY IMBESI: And so when you left  
9 the -- the project, then, in or around October of  
10 2018, what was the status of the retrofit campaign  
11 that was ongoing?

12                  ARNAUD LACAZE: The retrofit, like, was  
13 ongoing. We -- I remember, at that time, we had --  
14 we had a daily standup meeting with OLRTC, Thales,  
15 everybody. We have -- every day at 4, we had some  
16 standup meeting to explain the situation, but also  
17 to explain the -- the global situation of the  
18 project.

19                  And after that, we had weekly detailed  
20 meeting in terms of schedule with OLRTC. So we  
21 developed effectively -- train by train, we  
22 developed all of the retrofit activities to be  
23 performed with a detailed schedule, and we  
24 follow -- we follow that on a regular basis with  
25 OLRTC. And then we had an agreement in terms of

1 time frame, in terms of implementation, and in  
2 terms of priority.

3 Because, once again, the train was --  
4 most of the train were already provisionally  
5 accepted, and so these trains were used by Thales  
6 or they were used by the City, so we had a schedule  
7 with OLRTC, saying, Okay, we can use this train, I  
8 don't know, 2 days this week to do the retrofit.  
9 So we planned everything like this.

10 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so in terms of the  
11 agreement that you just mentioned for the timeline  
12 and the priority to perform some of this work, at  
13 the time that you left, was Alstom on schedule as  
14 agreed upon?

15 ARNAUD LACAZE: Honestly, I think so,  
16 yes. I -- I didn't -- I didn't remember a big new  
17 negotiation on this one.

18 ANTHONY IMBESI: And --

19 ARNAUD LACAZE: Honestly, I don't  
20 remember. I remember that we -- we set some  
21 priorities; we set the schedule. I don't -- I  
22 don't remember any big issues.

23 ANTHONY IMBESI: And then in terms of  
24 the testing and commissioning of the system overall  
25 and the LRVs, what was the status of that when you

1 left in October of 2018?

2 ARNAUD LACAZE: For me, it was -- we  
3 say just the beginning because when I left, I think  
4 we had access just a couple of months or weeks  
5 before to the full main line, to the full line. So  
6 yes, during -- during my period, we were able to do  
7 some tests on the 2 kilometres of tracks. We were  
8 able, step by step, to have access to the tunnel,  
9 for example.

10 But, really, I think when I left it was  
11 only the beginning of the test on the full line,  
12 with the full Thales system operational, with the  
13 full system operational in terms of catenary, in  
14 terms of radios, so it was really the beginning  
15 of -- I would say the full integrated system at  
16 that time. So...

17 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. So by October  
18 '18, then, the full integration of everything  
19 coming together on the full line, that was sort of  
20 just beginning?

21 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. From my point of  
22 view, it was really the beginning. Before that, it  
23 was some sporadic validation -- again, I'm talking  
24 here -- I'm not talking anymore about the rolling  
25 stock alone. I'm talking about the full system,

1 rolling stock and everything around the rolling  
2 stock.

3 Before that, we were able to do some  
4 touch point, but yes, at -- from what I remember,  
5 at that time, in fall 2018, it was really the  
6 beginning of, okay, let's validate now the full  
7 system.

8 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. And so as part  
9 of the Commission's mandate, we are tasked with  
10 investigating the commercial and technical  
11 circumstances that led to the breakdowns and  
12 derailments that ultimately occurred on the system.

13 Besides everything that we've gone over  
14 today, is there anything else that you feel we  
15 haven't touched upon that's relevant to that  
16 mandate?

17 ARNAUD LACAZE: No, I think -- I think  
18 I've -- I think we spoke about everything I did  
19 during my mandate at that time, yeah.

20 ANTHONY IMBESI: And so also as part of  
21 the Commissioner's role, he's tasked with making  
22 recommendations in furtherance of that mandate. Is  
23 there anything that comes to mind in terms of  
24 recommendations that you would propose in terms of  
25 addressing these types of situations?

1                   ARNAUD LACAZE: The derailment, you  
2 mean, or?

3                   ANTHONY IMBESI: Yeah, the  
4 circumstances that led to the breakdowns and  
5 derailments. Is there anything that comes to mind  
6 in terms of recommendations on how to change things  
7 or to do anything going forward?

8                   ARNAUD LACAZE: Honestly, no. I  
9 don't -- I -- and honestly, I don't know this --  
10 this subject. I'm not -- I'm not living in Ottawa,  
11 so... I cannot -- I cannot speak about that or  
12 give any recommendation on this subject, honestly.

13                   ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. Thank you.

14                   Ms. Boghasian, did you have any  
15 follow-up questions for -- for Mr. Lacaze?

16                   TARA BOGHOSIAN: I don't.

17                   ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. Mr. Valo, did  
18 you have any questions for Mr. Lacaze?

19                   MICHAEL VALO: I have just one -- one  
20 question, if I could.

21                   Mr. Lacaze, you were explaining earlier  
22 to Mr. Imbesi the consequences of changes to, for  
23 example, the P25 radio or Thales changes that  
24 required -- I think you had said an addition of a  
25 cable or changes to cabling in the vehicles. I'm

1 wondering if you could just explain, for the  
2 record, what that involves. What's the work  
3 involved, the extent of the work involved in making  
4 a change to the cabling in the cars?

5 ARNAUD LACAZE: Yes. In fact, when you  
6 have these kind of -- of changes, you need to --  
7 first, to bring, again, your technical team to  
8 rethink -- to see, effectively, what Thales's new  
9 interface is. So the technical team need to  
10 reestablish, to rethink about the interfaces, to  
11 understand, effectively, what are the new  
12 interfaces first.

13 Following that -- so we need to have an  
14 agreement with the subsupplier about these new  
15 interfaces, freeze these new interfaces, and  
16 following that go back to the industrial team and  
17 to the production team to clearly understand how  
18 these changes would be able to be implemented in  
19 terms of production and in terms of the sequence in  
20 the production.

21 So you would understand that it's --  
22 it's like a new product, in fact, that you have to  
23 restart. You have to -- you have to redo this V  
24 cycle that I was explaining at the beginning. You  
25 need to redo the design, the implementation of this

1 design, and revalidate this design. So you need to  
2 redo this V cycle.

3 And when it's at the beginning of the  
4 project, we do understand that, okay, it's not a  
5 big deal, but when you have a production line, we  
6 have everybody focussing on the suppliers, the  
7 production, and so on, it's a huge impact.

8 If you need to add some cable, for  
9 example, it means you need to add some connectors,  
10 so you have to change your bill of material. You  
11 have to reestablish a new purchase order. You have  
12 to find some supplier. So it's a huge -- it's  
13 huge, huge new project or new tasks that you have  
14 to do, or to redo most of the time.

15 MICHAEL VALO: Okay. Thank you,  
16 Mr. Lacaze. I appreciate that. No other  
17 questions.

18 ANTHONY IMBESI: Okay. Thank you,  
19 Mr. Lacaze. We can go off record.

20 -- Concluded at 4:40 p.m.

21  
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25

1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

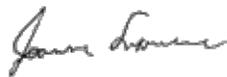
2  
3 I, JOANNE A. LAWRENCE, Registered  
4 Professional Reporter, certify;

5 That the foregoing proceedings were  
6 taken before me at the time and place therein set  
7 forth, at which time the witness was put under oath  
8 by me;

9 That the testimony of the witness  
10 and all objections made at the time of the  
11 examination were recorded stenographically by me  
12 and were thereafter transcribed;

13 That the foregoing is a true and  
14 correct transcript of my shorthand notes so taken.

15  
16 Dated this 9th day of June, 2022.

17  
18 

19 \_\_\_\_\_  
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21 PER: JOANNE LAWRENCE, RPR, CSR

22 COURT REPORTER  
23  
24  
25

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