

# Baggage Solutions for Air-Rail

The Dutch government aims to reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses in the aviation industry. This incentive resulted in a collaboration called the ‘Actieagenda Trein en Luchtvaart’. The ambition of this collaboration is to strengthen international trains, by making them more attractive alternatives to short-haul flights. Specifically, the route between Amsterdam Airport Schiphol and Brussel Zuid train station. On this route KLM is working together Thalys to offer a service to combine flight tickets and train tickets. This service is called: Air-Rail. The challenges of Air-Rail lie within the transfer that differs from traditional Air-Air, using facilities that are not Air-Rail-specific, and the complex stakeholder network that is involved.

## Research Conclusion

From research the main conclusion is that Air-Rail baggage requires a long-term solution based on the complexity of the vast stakeholder network that is involved. By creating a focus on a long-term plan, while in the meantime the low-hanging fruit (pre-travel info and signage) is picked to create a fully seamless and complete Air-Rail service.

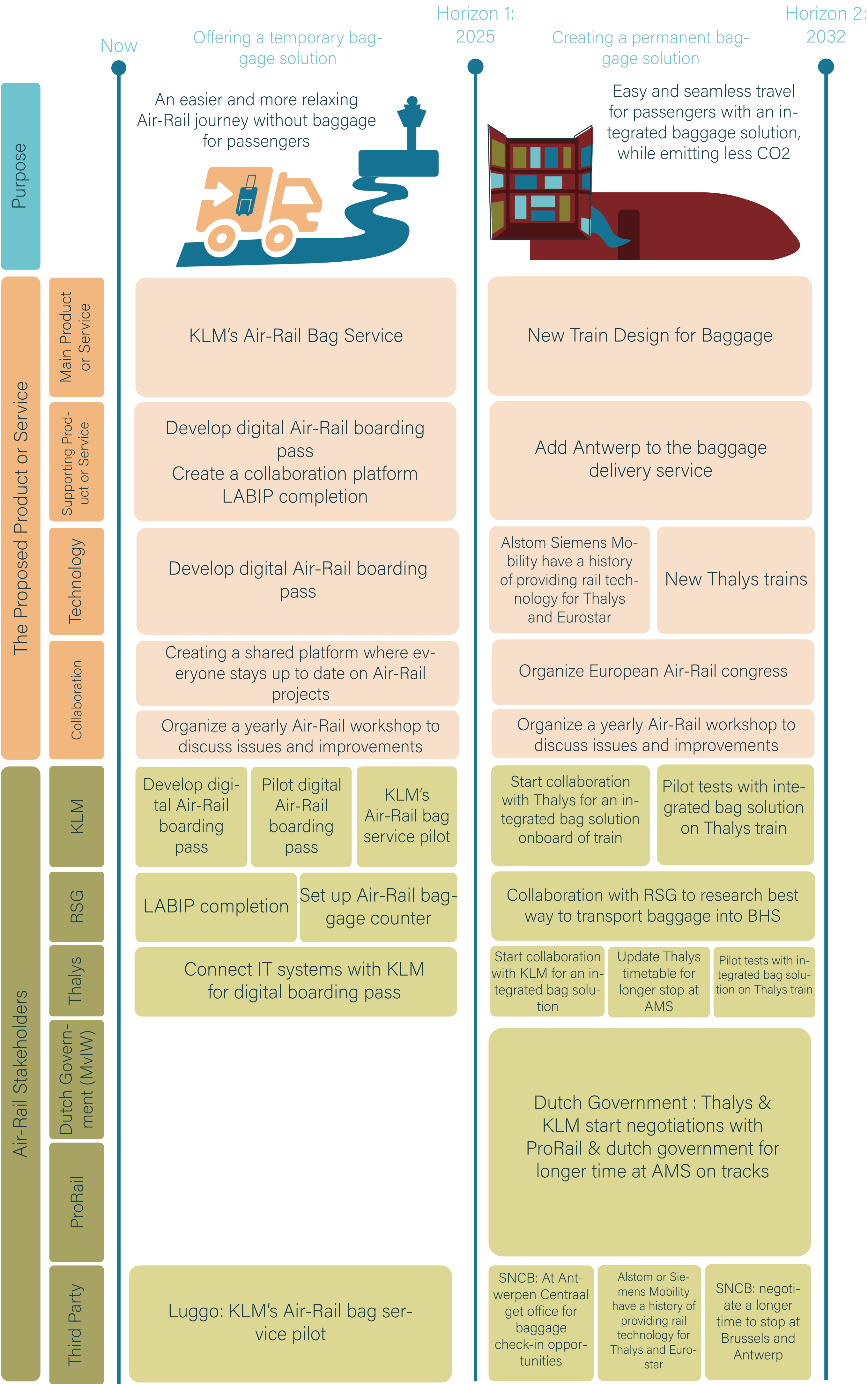
### Horizon 1 in 2025: KLM’s Air-Rail Baggage Delivery Service

The concept in the first horizon is to offer a temporary bag delivery service which is a door-to-airport and airport-to-door concept that will run between Brussels and Amsterdam Airport Schiphol. The concept will offer the passengers the opportunity to send baggage between Amsterdam Airport Schiphol and Brussels, both ways. This is done by transporting baggage by delivery van to and from Brussels. The reasoning for this, is that the passenger will have a more pleasant experience by preventing having to take baggage on the Thalys train with them. During research of experiencing the Air-Rail journey, it was noted that bringing large bags on the train caused unsafe, nervous, and unpleasant feelings. This made the train ride stressful, making Air-Rail a less viable replacement for short-haul European flights. Therefore, as a temporary concept, by transporting the bags outside of the train, the service should create a more pleasant experience for the Air-Rail passenger.

### Horizon 2 in 2032: A New Train Design for Baggage

The concept for horizon two in 2032 is an Air-Rail train design for baggage. The concept will be part of the new design of Thalys’s train cars that is planned to be executed around 2032. Thalys’s plans provide this opportunity to include Air-Rail baggage improvements for inside the train. The main concept is to create more room for stowing baggage by adding the missing baggage hallway that the older Thalys trains have, called the “fourgon”. In this baggage hallway, that is located at the front of the train behind the locomotive, a large number of suitcases can be stored (in the old ‘fourgon’ the capacity allowed a maximum of 60 suitcases). With this new design, Air-Rail offers baggage check-in for your flight at ZYR. Additionally, the new design offers an easier and more secure way to travel by train with large baggage. This concept is for horizon two, due to the timing of Thalys’s plan for having new train cars in 2032.

## Roadmap for Air-Rail Baggage Solutions



Fiona Taniguchi  
Baggage Solutions for Air-Rail  
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Strategic Product Design

Committee Prof. Mr. Dr. ir. S.C. Santema  
Ir. R.G.H. Bluemink

