

FEATURED TOPIC:

FOUNDING OF THE SOUTHEAST EUROPE RAILWAY CLUSTER

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Montenegro: ŽICG welcomed Chinese delegation of “Poly Group”

BiH: Modernization of Railways of Republic of Srpska

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Istanbul: Fair held “Eurasia Trail” from 02 - 04.03.2016.

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IMPRESSUM

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Editor's opinion: Newsletter that connects



Dear readers and members of the Rail Cluster for Southeast Europe (RCSEE),

Before you is the first Issue of the new newsletter of our Cluster. In fact, previous magazine "SEE Perspective" of Business Support Network (BSN) association was transformed into publication "SEE Rail Perspective" which will be „more than newsletter“, published quarterly and bilingually.

Of course, we wish to open our pages for our members, so we invite you to send your suggestions, critique, letters, ideas, but also news about your companies, which you think deserve to be found on our joint pages.

Along with the reports of RCSEE activities, our newsletter will report on events of importance for the railway sector in the region, corporate activities of Cluster members, national railways in the region... We will also announce interesting upcoming events, such as fairs, conferences, roundtables, seminars...

Main idea of cluster functioning is networking among its members. Founding of our cluster was initiated by private sector. Those companies are very closely cooperating with national railways in the region. That is what gives us hope that national railways will also see that the membership in and close cooperation with our Cluster is in their best interest.

That is why we expect our Cluster to continue growing as it has been in the first three months of its existence: in an efficient and quality manner.

Kindest regards,

Milan Vučković

RCSEE Direktor

SEE RAIL Perspective, *Editor im chief*





Railway Infrastructure of Montenegro (ŽICG) welcomed Chinese delegation, representatives of “Poly Group” company

Podgorica, March 16: Railway Infrastructure of Montenegro had an opportunity to welcome Chinese delegation, representatives of POLY GROUP company, a leader on global market in business investments, civil trade and business. The company has a long tradition in realization of infrastructure projects and have used the opportunity to present their achievements in railway traffic and projects realized across the world, and have expressed a specific interest in railway infrastructure projects in Montenegro.

The guests were welcomed by the representative of Ministry of Transport and Maritime Traffic, the Director of Railway Directorate, Mr. Milan Banković, and the Executive Director of Railway Infrastructure of Montenegro Mr. Milan Čolaković. Mr. Banković expressed his regards to the guests, and shortly introduced the attendees with natural parameters of railway infrastructure, and with the EU standards of procurement of equipment and construction which must be respected during realization of infrastructure projects. In his address, Mr. Čolaković stated that Railway Infrastructure of Montenegro is intensively working on realization of investment projects whose main goal is to increase safety of railway transport, and increase of capacities of railway infrastructure. Through the realization of new projects they contribute toward an efficient and quality connection of goods and passengers on infrastructure. In his speech, Executive Director Čolaković briefly presented the possibilities for investments and potential for involvement of Chinese companies in realization of future large projects such as railway Pljevlja-Bijelo Polje-Berane-Kosovo border and Nikšić-Bileća-Čapljina railway, considering that the Chinese side expressed an interest primarily in large projects.

Railway Infrastructure of Montenegro has plans for a

large number of projects which are highly demanding in both investment and technological sense, said the representatives of ŽICG.



Implementation of project of modernization of Railways of Republic of Srpska signalization and telecommunication systems

Republic of Srpska (Bosnia and Hercegovina), April 7:

By the means of visit of stations and getting to know the situation in the field, contractor on the PS-03 project, Czech company „AŽD Praha” was introduced into the project. Implementation of this, for Railways of Srpska very important project, will enable faster, more quality and safer operation of railway traffic.

The scope of works includes the installation of new SS systems in the Ostružnja, Snjegotina, Jošavka, Čelinac, Vrbanja and Banjaluka railway stations, together with telecommunication devices, as well as deployment of optical cable on Doboj-Banjaluka railroad, connecting all stations with telecommunication



equipment. The contractual deadline is 15 months, however, considering that the contractor had a period for preparation of documentation and organization of subcontractors, it has been agreed to shorten the deadline to thirteen and a half months.

Snježana Marković, director of Sector of Development, Investments and IT Infrastructure of ŽRS and Task Manager for the project expects good cooperation and conclusion of works in estimated amount of time, as all the potential delays would have to be justified.

The project worth 15,811,780.66 EUR will be financed from the remaining credit line of EBRD and European Investment Bank.



Party Train between Zagreb and Belgrade

Zagreb-Belgrade, March 4: Croatian tourism agency FUN FACTORY continued a tradition of mass weekend



travels aimed at youth to Belgrade, the city for which the entire region thinks that „never sleeps“. Great adventure began on March 4, when over 700 young people from all parts of Croatia headed toward Belgrade with “TRIP'N'FUN PARTY TRAIN“.

Right after counting of numerous travellers fun began with music in all passenger cars, loudest in dining car. In joyful and positive atmosphere, the travel went by quickly. On the Belgrade train station, partying guests from Croatia were welcomed by traditional Serbian trumpet players, but also a large number of journalists. The fiery atmosphere lasted until the return to Zagreb.

New Train on Croatia Railways

Zagreb, February 15: A new diesel-electric engine train for regional passenger transport was just put into regular traffic on the Zagreb Main Station – Zabok - Varaždin - Zabok – Zagreb route.

The first ride of the new train was attended by **Oleg Butković**, Minister of Transport, Maritime Traffic and Infrastructure; **Jure Šarić**, Acting Assistant to the Minis-

ter; **Dražen Ratković**, President of the Management of Passenger Transport of Croatian Railways; **Darinko Bago**, President of the Management of Končar – Electroindustry; and Ivan Bahun, President of the Management of Končar – Electric Vehicles. Minister Butković said that the new train is an important event for Croatian Railways Passenger Transport and the passengers who will use it. New train was also spoken of by Darinko Bago, President of Management in Končar – Electroindustry: “This is the first diesel-electric engine train based on the same technology as electric trains. We hope to ensure financing for the production of trains soon, as it is very important for Končar and all our suppliers“

Diesel-electric engine train for regional transport of 7023 series is a three-part diesel-electric low-floor set. Maximum speed of the train is 120 km/h, and it has 167 seats and 175 standing places available.



Croatian Railways Passenger Transport signed a contract on production of 44 new trains with Končar – Electric Vehicles in January 2014. Končar – Electric Vehicles company is producing 32 trains with electric engines – 16 for intracity transport and 12 diesel-electric engine trains. Total value of contract is 1.68 billion HRK. Up to now, they have delivered 10 trains for regional transport and 8 electric engine trains for regional transport.



Summer season of touristic museum-train „Romantic“ begins

Mokra Gora, April 1: Railway lovers can rest: the summer season of touristic museum-train „Romantic“ finally began. This attractive train travels every day on Mokra Gora - Šargan Vitasi - Mokra Gora route, with two regular and two optional departures. Regular departures are in 10:30h and 13:30h, and optional departures are introduced when needed depending on the interest in 08h and 16.10h.

There is a possibility of renting of the train during the



night hours as well. Also, price for rental of the train is 60,000 RSD (500.00 EUR) if driven by diesel engine i 120,000 RSD (1,000.00 EUR) with steam engine locomotive.

6th Transport and Traffic Business Days held on Faculty of Transport

Belgrade, March 22: In the presence of the Vice-President of the Government of the Republic of Serbia and Minister of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure, prof. Zorana Mihajlović and State Secretary Miodrag Poledica, the closing ceremony of 6th Transport and Traffic Business Days on Belgrade Faculty of Transport was held on March 22. The ceremony was also attended by mr Goran Maksić, Acting Director General of „Railway of Serbia Infrastructure AD“, as well as Executive Directors Dušan Garibović and Milan Šegan with associates.

The occasion was used to sign a Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Construction, Traffic and Infrastructure and Belgrade's Faculty of Transport. The



Memorandum was signed by Ms. Zorana Mihajlović and the dean of Faculty of Transport, Mr. Nebojša Bojović.

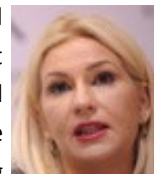
During her speech, Minister said that „in the last 65 years on this faculty graduated over 6,000 transport engineers, which is a large capital for Serbia“.

Searching for the new Directors of the Serbian Railways

Belgrade, April 2016: Even though the vacancies for new directors of Serbian Railways were published back in February, the selection was not yet made due to the ongoing pre-election campaign in Serbia. As a reminder, the vacancies are still open for the director of Railway Infrastructure of Serbia, Serbia Voz and Serbia Cargo companies. The requirements are that the candidate is not a member of political party body, or that their party function is frozen. New directors are supposed to have at least five years of work experience, three of which in the field of railway transport or in management positions. They also have to know at least one „foreign“ language, but the requirements do not list if it includes one of the regional languages. The directors will be chosen for a four-year mandate. Serbian Railways were divided into Holding, Infrastructure, Serbia Voz and Serbia Cargo companies in July 2015.

167 km of Railways in Serbia to be Modernized through Russian Credit in 2016

Belgrade, April 6: Minister of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure, Zorana Mihajlović, said to the media that during this year 167 km of railways will be modernized and reconstructed through the Russian credit, and that the realization of contract between Serbia-Russia concerning that credit is the most important task for the new Government, which is expected to be established in May, after the elections.



One of the World's Largest Fairs of Railway and Railway Technologies "EURASIA TRAIL" Held - March 2-4 2016

Istanbul Expo Center: Once again the „Eurasia Trail“ fair fulfilled all the expectations, of exhibitors as well as visitors with variety of fair programme, including a number of conferences, seminars and formal and informal meetings.

In brief, this important fair gathered 300 exhibitors from 30 countries. Also, the fair was visited by 11,539 professionals from the railway industry from 52 countries.

Among the exhibitors and visitors there were several companies from the Southeast Europe, and in addition, several members from our Cluster RSCEE were present as exhibitors.

As a part of RCSEE, we will soon send an official invitation to the members and friends of RCSEE for an organized visit to Berlin fair InnoTrans 2016. Our plan is for the Cluster delegation to stay in Berlin between September 20 and 22, and have secured a number of single-bed rooms in a hotel in Berlin. Number of people in the delegation is limited. All interested may contact us at welcome@rcsee.org or info@bsn.rs for reservations. We have prepared an interesting fair program, plane tickets from Belgrade airport to Berlin and hotel accommodations.



FOUNDING OF THE SOUTHEAST EUROPE RAILWAY CLUSTER

CLUSTER AS A NEW PLATFORM FOR WIDE COOPERATION

On February 10, a founding meeting of Railway Cluster for South East Europe was held in Belgrade. Cluster attracted large attention from the companies, institutions and the media from the region.

Founding meeting of the Rail Cluster for Southeast Europe was held in Belgrade on February 10. The official founding of the cluster was attended by 36 attendees – representatives of companies and institutions, founders of the cluster, as well as guests from the region, including the representatives of German Embassy, Austrian Trade Chamber, Serbian Railway Directorate and others.

Basic strategic goals of the Cluster are: increased networking of the companies from the region and with the EU, modernization of railway system in the region, harmonization of standards of railway systems in Southeast Europe, increase of productivity and com-

petitiveness in the international market, improved external reputation for the railways, lobby and PR activities in the EU for improved financial support to national railways in the region, initiation of implementation of innovative technologies in the region, synchronization of legislation in the region with the EU enabling intensified passenger and cargo transfer in this part of Europe and development of public-private partnership in the railway sector in the region.

During the founding meeting, the membership fees categories and amounts were determined and adopted unanimously, as well as members of the Presidency from six European countries.



FOUNDING OF THE SOUTHEAST EUROPE RAILWAY CLUSTER

LEADERSHIP OF RCSEE ELECTED

In Belgrade, on February 10, the leadership of Railway Cluster for South East Europe (RCSEE) was elected. In the Presidency there are currently 6 members from 6 countries.

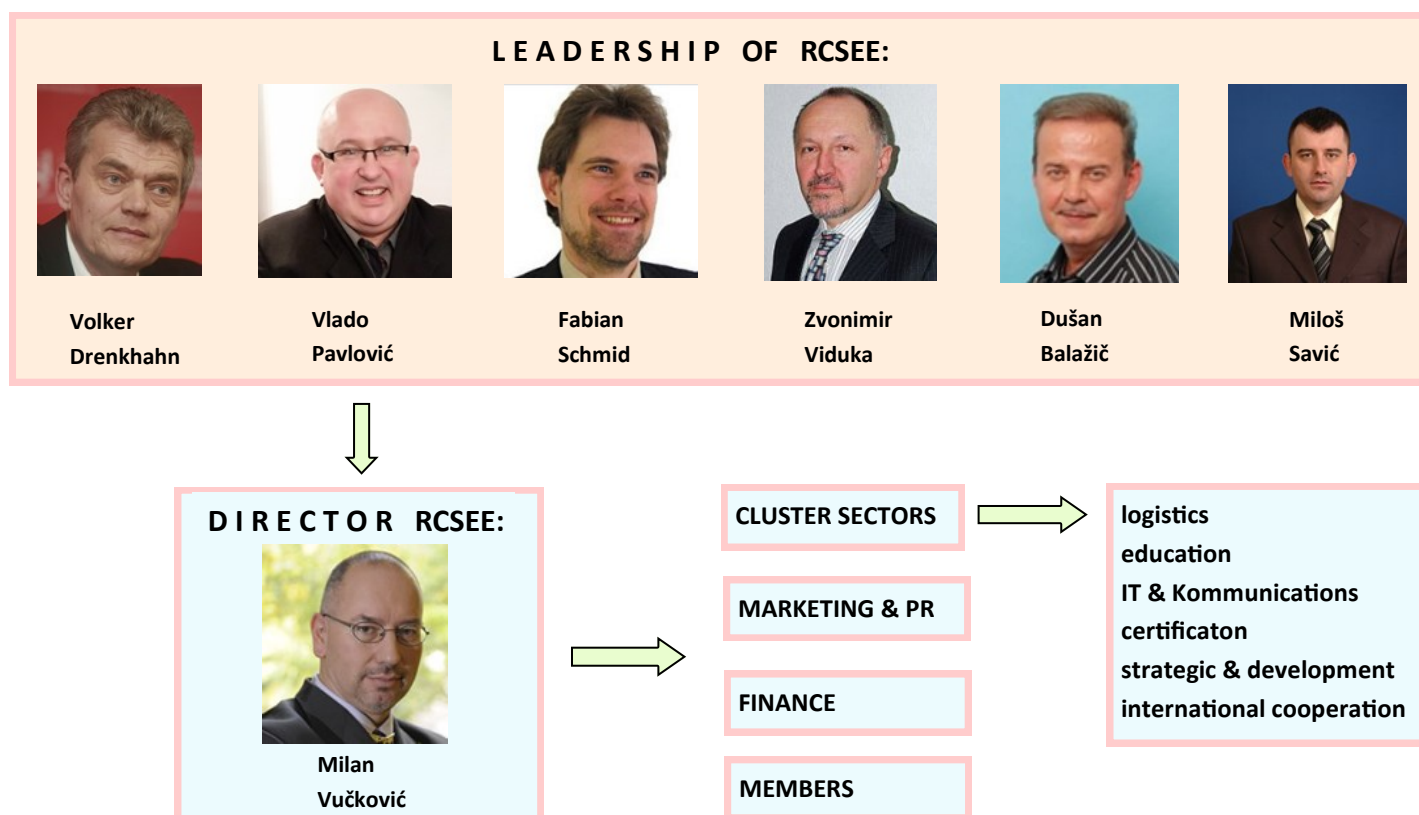
On the Founding Conference of the Railway Cluster for Southeast Europe, the members of the Presidency were elected, as follows – **Volker Drenkhahn** (AEBT GmbH, Germany), **Vlado Pavlović** (Siemens Serbia), **Fabian Schmid** (ERC GmbH, Austria), **Zvonimir Viduka** (Altpro, Croatia), **Dušan Balažič** (Q Techna, Slovenia) and **Miloš Savić** (Elnos BL, Bosnia and Hercegovina).

One month after, Presidency of RCSEE unanimously elected first Director of the Cluster, a Partner in the Business Support Network (BSN), **Milan Vučković**.

Considering that RCSEE was founded as a part of the

BSN, this association opened a separate bank account in order to ensure transparent management of the cluster finance. BSN personnel are in charge of coordination and functioning of the Cluster, as well as finance and internal and external communication.

Finally, it is important to note that in the Press Center of Journalist Association of Serbia in Belgrade, where the Founding Conference of RCSEE was held, the web-site of the Cluster was presented. All interested parties can follow new information on Cluster functioning on the web address www.rcsee.org



The welcome message to the participants of the Belgrade Regional Conference on Railways from Nuremberg



Greeting from CNA

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

An innovative, efficient and sustainable Rail Offers an optimal and economic part to the traffic of freight and passenger.

Innovation requires new solutions and concepts

Therefore it's a pleasure for me and my colleagues of the CAN e.V that today the attendees of this conference likes to initiate a new Railcluster for the SEE region.

Be inspired from the conference today and go along with the traditional Rail of the SEE region into a new, innovative and sustainable future.

Compliments from Nuremberg – the town where 180 years ago the German Rail started with the first ride of the legendary “Adler”.



Norbert Schäfer
Chairman of CNA e.V.



Dr. Werner Enser
CEO of Cluster Bahntechnik



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