



FEATURED TOPIC:

REGIONAL RAILWAY BUSINESS CONFERENCE IN ZAGREB

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s. 6-7 | FACTORY NEWS

BiH: Good Start for TTA Section Banjaluka

Croatia: Planning of Second Track Through Rijeka

Serbia: Serbia to Invest 978 mil EUR in Infrastructure in 2017

Serbia: Chinese Company CCECC to Work on Important Project in Serbia

s. 9-10 FEATURED TOPIC: REGIONAL RAILWAY BUSINESS CONFERENCE IN ZAGREB



s. 11 RCSEE ACTIVITIES

Zagreb: First Expanded RCSEE Members Meeting in 2017

s. 12 MOVING TOWARD THE INTERNATIONAL FAIR:



s. 13 RCSEE WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

IMPRESSUM

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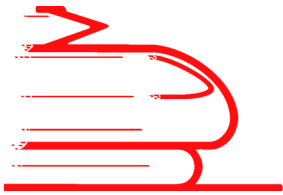
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Editor's opinion:

Large meeting of railway businesses in Zagreb is an example for future regional cooperation

Dear readers, members and friends of the Railway Cluster for Southeastern Europe (RCSEE),



The featured topic of this issue is the recently-held business conference in Zagreb on January 26th in the premises of Croatian Chamber of Economy (HGK), which was attended by over one hundred businessmen from our sector, mostly from the region, but also from some of the EU countries: Germany, Austria, Italy and Finland.

This important conference was preceded by a meeting of members and friends of RCSEE with Croatian companies and institutions, held one day earlier by a RCSEE member and host, Altpro Zagreb company, which was, together with HGK, Pro Rail Alliance from Croatia, RCSEE and BSN was an important co-organizer of the two-day business gathering in Zagreb.

A respectable number of guests from Europe, from Finland to Montenegro, shows and proves that this kind of meetings and a quality dialogue on development and real situation in the railway branch in our region, is important for the rest of Europe: considering the increasing, safer and cheaper transport of goods and passengers of West, North and Central Europe with its southeast, Turkey, and even further, Near East, our region, with its existing railway network will always have its importance. That is why we together play an important role in the development of European cooperation in our field. It is in no-one's interest that our region remains a "black hole" of our continent with an underdeveloped infrastructure and devastated national railways. This was proven by this recent large conference that pointed to an important fact: without a wide regional economic cooperation, business association and further networking, there is no development perspective.



In this issue you will read, as always, about the realization of new projects in our region, as well as the activities of RCSEE.

We also again gave an important attention to the upcoming fair "SEE Mobility 2017" in Belgrade, which is to be held on April 26th and 27th. I repeat, the fair is a small one, but deserves to be visited and exhibited on. For many reasons.

Best regards,

Milan Vučković

RCSEE Director

SEE RAIL Perspective, Editor in chief



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Banjaluka Section for TTA has better start of the year than the last one

Banjaluka, Republika Srpska, BiH.: Employees of the Section for Traffic and Transport Activities (TTA), according to the statistical data in the field of transport, have begun this business year better than the previous one, said Sretko Tubak, Section Director. When observing the segments of activities, the unloading has been higher than in January 2016, while the loading has been lesser.

- In the first 26 days of January, the loading was somewhat lesser than in the same month last year, as we had 33 cars and 700 tons of loaded goods, compared to 44 cars and 1108 tons in 2016, that is, we had 11 cars and 408 tons of loaded goods less than the previous year. That result is the consequence of the reduced production of Omarska mines and the cease of transport of bauxite ore, after the closing of 20th railway track in Banjaluka – said Sretko Tubak, director of TTA Banjaluka Section.

The unloading of goods saw greatly improved results compared to the last year, a total of 78 cars and 3324 tons of goods, while in the same period last year the number was 44 cars and 1910 tons. The main goods were used oil, quartz rock, granite and gas.



HŽ Infrastructure receives 241 million EUR support for new large project from the EU funds

Croatian Railway Infrastructure, November 2016.:

After the European Commission decided on the co-financing of the reconstruction of the existing and construction of the second track of Križevci-Koprivnica-state border railway, HŽ Infrastructure signed an agreement with European Commission (more precisely, INEA agency on behalf of the EC), which ensures the co-financing of that megaproject with 85 percent (slightly above 241 million EUR) coming from the Connecting Europe Facility instrument.

Through this project HŽ Infrastruktura continues with the modernization of the **Mediterranean corridor** on the section between Zagreb and border with Hungary.

After the works on reconstruction of the existing and construction of the second track on the Dugo Selo– Križevci route began in July 2016, worth almost 200 million EUR, same interventions are planned in continuation, on Križevci-Koprivnica-state border route, which is a project worth almost 300 million EUR.

Project details: Reconstruction of the existing track and construction of the second parallel line is planned on the railway section Križevci — Koprivnica — state border. New route of double track will mostly follow the existing track, except on the Carevdara — Lepavina subsection, where the railway will be moved approximately 4.3 km. The work will also encompass the reconstruction and construction of four railway stations and six stops, removal and construction of . Radovi će obuhvatiti i rekonstrukciju/izgradnju četiriju kolodvora i šest stajališta, uklanjanje/nadogradnju railway-road crossings, construction of 11 grade separations, removal of existing bridge over the river Drava and construction of the new bridge. Those activities will increase the capacity, ensure speed of 160 kmh and enable acceptance of interoperable trains.



Altpro Zagreb: Best Corporate Party in Croatia

December 2016: The biggest and best corporate party in Croatia was held in the well-known Croatian company Altpro Zagreb, attended by 400 guests, mostly from the business world. On behalf of the host, the numerous guests were welcomed by the company's Director General, **Zvonimir Viduka**.





Serbia to invest 978 million EUR in infrastructure in 2017



Belgrade, January 2017: Investments in Serbian infrastructure in 2017 will amount to 977.7 million EUR, said **Zorana Mihajlović**, Minister of construction, transport and infrastructure.

She stated that works on the construction of Belgrade—Budapest railway, section of Belgrade

beltway and Surčin-Obrenovac highway will start in 2017. These works are worth 734 million EUR. The projects are being realized according to contracts with Chinese companies, and resident companies can expect to be subcontracted for half of the amount.

Furthermore, the funds are prepared for planning and reconstruction of Corridor 10 railway, and the reconstruction of Niš-Dimitrovgrad railway, total worth of 175.9 million EUR, as well as for the construction works on Belgrade Center railway station, worth 3.5 million EUR.

Finally, investments in the rehabilitation of 1.100 kilometers of regional roads and maintenance of national roads of first and second order will amount to 153 million EUR.

The contract is worth 23.78 million EUR and covers the reconstruction and replacement of construction and electrotechnical infrastructure in a total length of 7.5 km. The works are supposed to begin during February 2017, and the deadline is 351 days.

The works are being financed through the loan by European Bank for Renewal and Development (EBRD), total worth of 95 million EUR, which has been agreed on in 2012, but has not been realized so far.

The same loan will serve to finance the reconstruction of Jajinci-Mala Krsna railway, a total length of 75.9 km, which should start in mid-2017.

Zhu Tianran, director of CCECC rep office in Serbia, stated that the Serbian companies will be involved in the works as subcontractors, and that the equipment will be procured from Serbia and the region. Also, CCECC plans to compete on the tender for the construction of Belgrade-Budapest fast rail, financed through the Chinese loan.



Chinese company CCECC signs contract on reconstruction of Rasputnica G-Rakovica-Resnik railway



Belgrade, January 2017.: Chinese state-owned company CCECC (China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation) signed contract on reconstruction and modernization of Rasputnica G-Rakovica

-Resnik section of Beograd - Mladenovac - Niš - Preševo railway with Serbian Railways Infrastructure.



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RCSEE ON BIG BUSINESS MEETING IN ZAGREB

LARGE REGIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE OF RAIL SECTOR HELD IN ZAGREB

Participants claim that this was the largest meeting of this business sector in the last decade. After the expert conference, there were a total of 180 B2B meetings.

The largest regional conference of railway industry was recently held in Zagreb, organized by the Business Support Network (BSN), Railway Cluster for Southeastern Europe (RCSEE), Croatian Chamber of Economy (HGK) and Pro Rail Alliance from the Republic of Croatia, with the support of RCSEE member, Altpro Zagreb company, in the HGK premises. The conference was attended by the representatives of several of RCSEE members from Austria, Germany, Italy and Finland.

In the opening speech the numerous guests in the wonderful amphitheater were first addressed by the host, Ms. Tatjana Kesić-Šapić, director of Sector for Industry and IT and Mr. Tomislav Radoš, Vice President of the Croatian Chamber of Economy, Mr. Mladen Perkov on behalf of Altpro Zagreb (instead of Mr. Zvonimir Viduka, who could not attend the conference due to sudden illness), Milan Vučković, RCSEE director, Ante Klečina, Chief Coordinator of Pro Rail Alliance, Mario AntoniĆ, State Secretary of the Ministry of Economy, Entrepreneurship and Crafts in the Government of the Republic of Croatia and Marko Jurčić, advisor for economy of the President of the Republic of Croatia.

In his opening speech, Milan Vučković, RCSEE director, particularly stressed that “the events such as this is what the Cluster wants in its efforts to intensify the cooperation in our sector, but also to build a closer cooperation with national railways, their revitalization, introduction of new technologies and professionalization of its management, which would enable our sector to open new workplaces in the region”. He invited companies and institutions from

Croatia to join the Cluster and participate as the exhibitors and visitors on the upcoming fair “SEE Mobility 2017” on 26th and 27th of April in Belgrade. He also mentioned that the cooperation of the companies from our region with the largest markets of the EU should and must run in both directions, and not only one.

After the introduction, the expert panel discussion followed on the topic “Importance of railways for the manufacturing industry of the region”, in which the participants were Mario AntoniĆ, Snježana Josipović, head of the Sector of railway transport of Ministry of Sea, Transport



and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia, Janja Groš, Director of Business area Development and investment planning of Croatian Railway Infrastructure, Makso Đukić, President of the Forum of Employers of Serbia, Branislav Đurica, Assistant to the Director General of the Railways of Republic of Srpska, Dragoljub Rajić, Coordinator of RCSEE and Mladen Perkov, member of directorate of the Altpro Zagreb company. The panel was moderated by Ms. Tatjana Kesić-Šapić from HGK.

After the panel the guests moved to another room in which a total of 180 B2B meetings were organized, which was one of the main reasons why the most of the guests from the region and abroad came to Zagreb.

All things considered, this was an excellent large event that showed a desire and need for networking of the companies in this form to be organized in the future in our region. These meetings in our branch showed a large unused potential in the expansion of regional economic cooperation.

RCSEE ON BIG BUSINESS MEETING IN ZAGREB



Tatjana Kesić Šapić, HGK



Tomislav Radoš, HGK



Milan Vučković, RCSEE



B2B Meetings



Panelists



Ante Klečina, SZŽ



B2B Meetings



Part of the RCSEE delegation arriving
from Serbia



B2B Meetings

RCSEE Members Meeting Held in Zagreb

Previously announced and long awaited meeting of members of our cluster was held on Thursday, 26th January in Zagreb, and the excellent host was a well-known **Croatian company "Altpro Zagreb"**, which is also one of its founding members.

More than fifty guests from Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, Austria, Germany, Italy and Finland presented the business activities of their companies during the working dinner which was provided an opportunity for the members to meet each other better and to find the possibilities of future business cooperation.

The evening was opened by the host, **Mr. Zvonimir Viduka, Director General of Altpro Zagreb**, who during his opening speech stated that this meeting is, in fact, in the function of improvement of corporate cooperation in the railway sector of our region.

Afterwards all other guests, representatives of Croatian companies and institutions, as well as RCSEE members received an opportunity to present themselves, which was a good overture to the large business regional conference and B2B meetings that were waiting for them on the next day in Zagreb.



Vera Vujović, Podgorica, Montenegro



Zvonimir Viduka, Altpro Zagreb



Dajana Livingston, Tatravagonka Bratstvo



RCSEE Meeting, Detail



Göran Lindblad, Amaronia Rail, Finland



RCSEE Meeting, Detail

International fair of transport technologies in Southeastern Europe, SEE Mobility, is to be held on 26th and 27th of April 2017 in Belgrade, aiming to gather all relevant representatives of mobility industry in the Western Balkans region in one place.

SEE Mobility 2017

International fair

of transport technology and services

Belgrade, 26th-27th April 2017.

Fair will also present an opportunity for companies from the EU Member States to present their advanced technologies for road, railway and public transport and infrastructure to the partners from Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Macedonia, and other countries in the region. The fair will also be attended by the companies with products and services meant for the interior and exterior in road and railway vehicles

and their maintenance and tunnel construction. Program of planned fair activities, detailed information for exhibitors and visitors and all other important information can be found at <http://bsn.rs/mobility>

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<https://de.linkedin.com/in/peter-mihli-589815bb>



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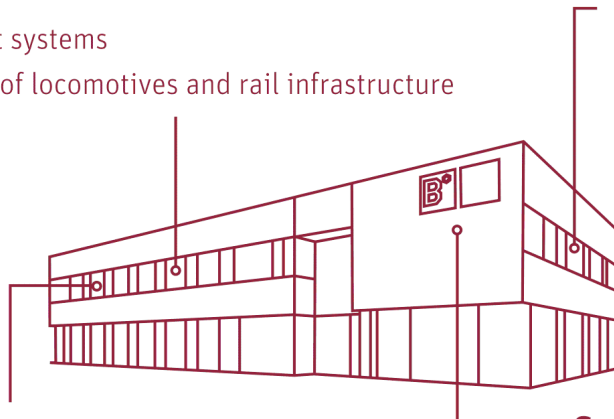
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