

FEATURED TOPIC: Current infrastructure projects in the region



N 06

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Montenegro: 123 mil EUR invested in infrastructure since 2006

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Current infrastructure projects in the region



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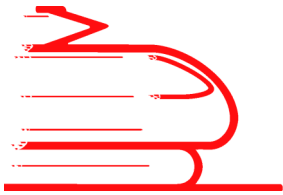
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Word from the editor and RCSEE director:

Serious activities on revitalization of infrastructure in our region

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



Main topic of this issue is the information on current infrastructure projects in the region, which we will keep informing our readers on in the future. The readers in this issue will be able to get to know basic information on the projects in Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia.

Why does this matter? The answer lies in the recently held fourth Western Balkan Leaders Summit in Trieste, where on the 12th of July the “Western Balkans Transport Community” was signed. Other important topics were the upcoming projects in the region worth 300 million EUR. The meeting was attended by the presidents and prime ministers of the countries in the region and the EU, and the representatives of most important international financial institutions. Important conclusion of this international summit was a dialogue on concrete implementation of EU legislation in the railway sector in the region, which would finally bring regional markets to the level of their international competition.

Of course, in this issue we have other interesting news, on the increased number of pages. Photo-report from the international fair of railway infrastructure in Münster, Germany is one of the things deserving of your attention, as well as our visit to the attractive narrow-gauge trail “Nostaglija” in Mokra Gora, Serbia.



Of course, as always, we bring the overview of news from the region.

Kindest regards,

Milan Vučković

RCSEE Director

*Chief Editor **SEE RAIL Perspective***



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BH train runs toward south again

June, Sarajevo, B&H.: Railways of the Federation of B&H have informed the public that from 08.06.2017. two passenger trains are running again on the lines: Sarajevo—Čapljina—Sarajevo is , leaving Sarajevo in 16:26h, and local passenger train Sarajevo - Konjic - Sarajevo leaving Sarajevo in 15:49h. Both trains will provide passengers with the top comfort of Talgo passenger cars.



Banjaluka: Government of RS held a session on the progress on restructuring of the Railways of the Republic of Srpska

18. May 2017, B&H: Government of RS held a session on 18.06. on which it adopted an information on the progress of restructuring the Railways of the Republic of Srpska, and the proposals on future activities.

Main goal of restructuring of the Railways of RS is the improvement of operational efficiency and financial sustainability. The process of restructuring should be realized through three interconnected components: restructuring of ownership, finances and organization.

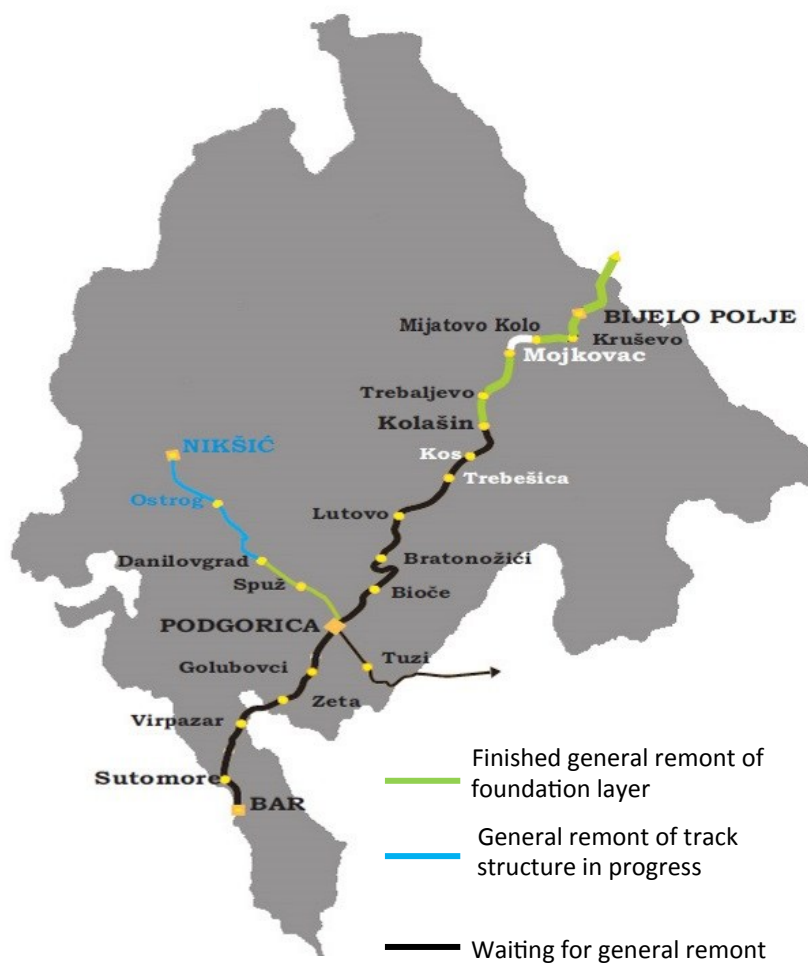
Minster of Transport, Neđo Trninić, suggested forming a Coordination board for the project, in order to coordinate the work of all institutions involved.



123.1 million EUR invested in rehabilitation of infrastructure since 2006

Podgorica: According to the Montenegro Railway Directorate, since 2006, 123.1 mil EUR was invested in rehabilitation and modernization of railway infrastructure, of which 106.8 mil EUR came from the credit lines of European banks (EIB, EBRD and CEB), and 16.3 mil EUR from donations from IPA and WBIF funds. Analysis shows that investments are made in the existing network, primarily in tracks, and modernization is concentrated on updating the signalization and electrification systems.

The graphic shows an overview of current works on railway infrastructure:





First EU project in energy sector

July, Zagreb, Croatia: CR Infrastrucutre ensured financing of another European project, first in the energy sector. Project **“Optimization of electric traction power supply from the transmission grid for the purpose of increasing energy efficiency”** worth 1.69 million EUR, 60% of which will be financed from the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF).

Project includes drafting of research study, implementation of pilot-project, and complete realization is planned for end of 2019. Main goal of project is promotion of railways as an efficient and eco-friendly way of transport, as well as the producer of renewable energy.

First step of the project is conduction of research that will determine the possibility of reduction of energy losses in the transmission grid and the possibility of increase of energy efficiency of train power supply.

Based on the study a pilot-project will be implemented, including the installation of two-way meters in certain substations and one-way meters in locomotives, development and implementation of information system for collecting and analyzing of data, implementation of facilities for variable compensation of reactive energy, and implementation of intelligent train information systems.

Works on Belgrade - Bar railway

July, Belgrade, Serbia: In mid July, a celebration was held at the main railway station in Belgrade, commemorating the renewal of section Resnik—Vreoci of Belgrade—Bar railway, a total length of 35 kilometers. The celebration was attended by the Vice President of the Government and Minister of construction, transport and infrastructure Zorana Mihajlović, as well as the ambassadors of Russian Federation and Montenegro. Minister Mihajlović stated her expectation that the second phase

of the reconstruction of this railway on Vreoci—Valjevo section will also be finished on time, in November 2017.

Value of investments in the remaining sections is 220 million EUR.

Serbia Cargo procuring eight multifunction electric locomotives

August, Belgrade, Serbia: On August 10th, Serbia Cargo concluded the first phase of tender procedure for procurement of new multifunction electric locomotives **СРБИЈА КАРГО а.д.** for cargo trains, with training of personnel for use and maintenance. The tender also covers delivery of special tools and spare parts.

Public procurement is financed from the part of EBRD loan that was previously secured for Railways of Serbia. Primary condition for participation is that the supplier had at least 80 million EUR turnover in the past 5 years. This public procurement consisted of two phases: in the first, suppliers gave only technical proposals, and in the second, proposals including price. The additional condition was for the suppliers to submit financial guarantees amounting to one million EUR.





Railway Car Factory GOŠA remained an unsuccessful state transition experiment

Smederevska Palanka: Once a Serbian industrial giant, “Goša” company, is a dying factory today. Mainly due to the incompetence of the own state. Goša was founded in 1923 with a mixed Serbo-French capital, named “Jasenica AD”, as a workshop for remount of carriages and manufacture of steel constructions. In the following decades in socialist Yugoslavia this factory was constantly growing and became a network of over 20 daughter-companies. During the transition, this factory, with its 900 workers at the time, was purchased by Slovakian company ŽOS Trnava at an auction in

2007. At the beginning of 2017, Goša employed only 360 workers. The owner, with the support of the state, did not pay wages, or social security contributions to the workers for several years. More precisely, debt toward the workers that went on strike was 1.8 million EUR for wages, suppliers were owed more than 1 million EUR, and the debt toward state institutions just for taxes reached 4 million EUR. Faced with such situation, ŽOS sells entire 100% of ownership to an unknown, Cyprus-based company “Lisnard Holding Limited”. Workers still do not know anything about their fate and have received no salaries for over 20 months. One of the workers, Dragan Mladenović, facing poverty and unsolvable problems, hanged himself in March in one of the factory halls. And Serbia is still keeping quiet concerning Goša...



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CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN THE REGION

EU grants Macedonia 70 mil EUR for infrastructure projects

Macedonia will get 70 million euros from the European Union (EU) to complete the construction of its Beljakovce-Kriva Palanka railway line, Macedonian Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs **Koco Anjusev** told a news conference Thursday.



The funds will be allocated to Macedonia within the framework of Trieste Summit which kicked off Wednesday in Italy.

“Macedonia is the biggest winner at Trieste Summit.

Out of 194 million euros which was the grant awarded to build infrastructure in the Western Balkans, Macedonia will get 46 percent of the total value of the section,” Angjusev told reporters.

According to him, by approving such funds, the EU has already recognized the reform-oriented commitment of the new government in Macedonia.

“The government deeply appreciates this move,” Angjusev highlighted.

At the Trieste Summit, six Western Balkan countries nominated projects estimated at over 1 billion euros..

Current Infrastructure Projects in Macedonia

Project 1: total length 30.9 km

Section: Nogaevci - Gradsko (8.08 km)

Section: Gradsko - Kukuričani (9.7 km)

Section: Kukuričani - Negotin (13.2 km)

Tender officially stated on 20.03.2013.

Contract awarded to : “CK 13 Hold-ING” JSC, Bulgaria

Value: 9.39 million EUR

Investor and project design:

Railway Infrastructure of Macedonia

Project 2: total length 17 km

Section: Bitola - Kremenica (Part of Corridor X)

EU support through IPA funds: 19 million EUR

Projected speed: 100 km/h

Project 3: total length 30.8 km

Reconstruction on section: Kumanovo - Beljakovci

Supported by EBRD by 39.75 million EUR

Investor: Railway Infrastructure of Macedonia

Project Design: “ILF” Austria

Contract awarded to: “H.F. Wiebe GmbH”, Germany

Supervisor: “Eptisa”, Spain



Railway network in the Republic of Macedonia:

- 925 km of open rails (1435 mm);
- 315 km electrified (25 kV 50 Hz);
- 226 km station tracks;
- 102 km industrial tracks;

CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN THE REGION

SERBIAN RAILWAYS

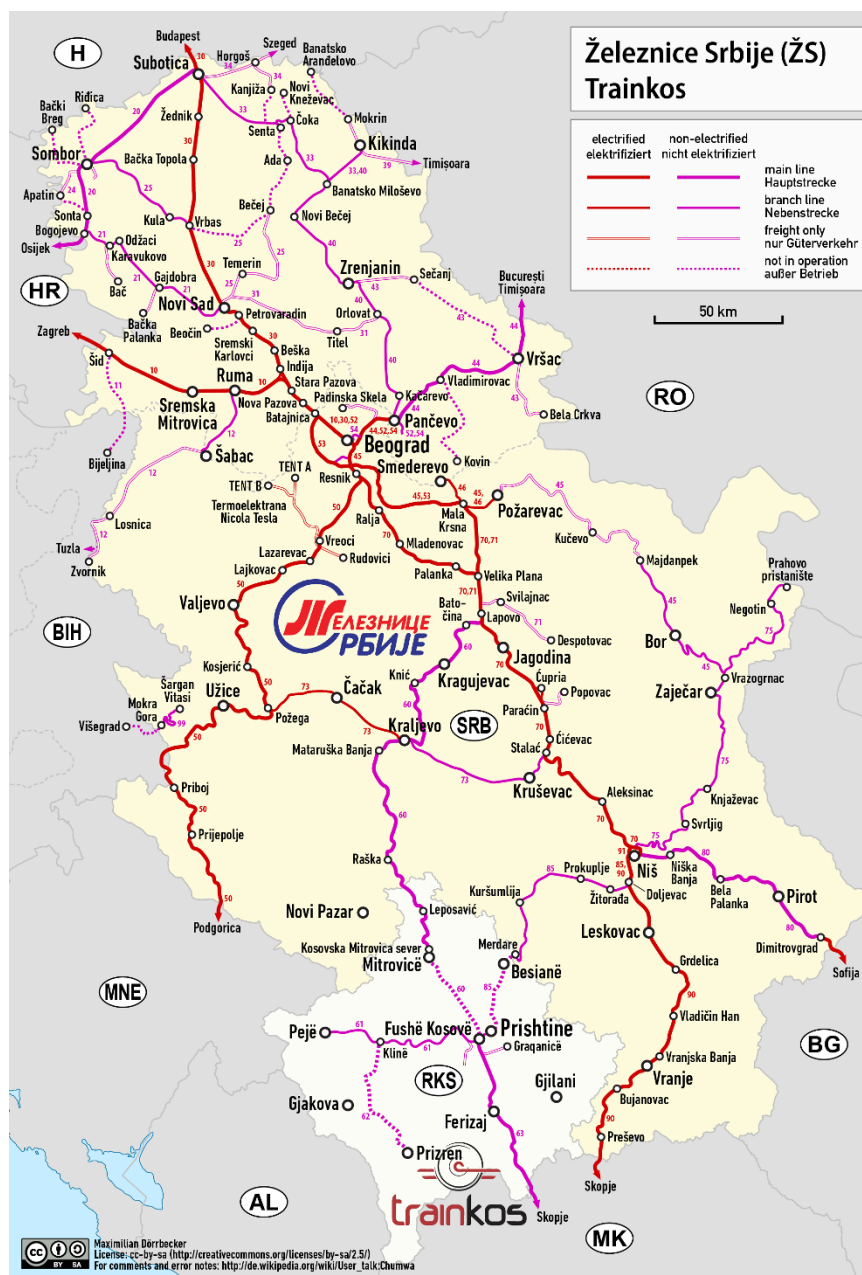
„Serbian Railways“ are in the process of consolidation, reorganization and rationalization that will last for several upcoming years, in order to create a basis for complete restructuring and sustainable finances in accordance with market economy. Based on that, a new Law on Railways was introduced in 2005, bringing a number of important innovations. The same year saw the formation of „Railway Directorate“, as a separate agency, dealing with matters in state administration of the railway sector determined by this law, and the law concerning safety and interoperability in railway transport.

Total length of railways in Serbia is 4.093 kilometers, of which 3.526 km are single-track rails, and 283 km double-track. 1.279 km of rails are electrified: 1000 km of single-track and 279 double-track rails. Railway network in Serbia is based on the standard 1.435 mm tracks, and all other systems are abandoned since 1964.

Most important railway network through Serbia is the international „Corridor X (E70 i E85)“ which is 767 km long, and only 32% of length is covered with double tracks, electrotechnical equipment is outdated, and the railway section Niš—Dimitrovgrad is not electrified. Current commercial speed is around 50 km/h. Large investments are necessary in order to bring the network in line with the requirements modern railway infrastructure.

Main railway junctions on Corridor X in Serbia are:

- Railway Junction Subotica;
- Railway Junction Novi Sad;
- Railway Junction Beograd;
- Railway Junction Niš;



Above: Map of railway infrastructure in Serbia (ŽS) and Kosovo and Metohija (trainkos).

Source: Maximilian Dörrbecker (Chumwa) - own work, using this file by NordNordWest as background Logo of Trainkos Logo of the Železnice Srbije (ŽS)

CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN THE REGION

Current and recently finished infrastructure projects in Serbia

Reconstruction of 6 sections on Corridor X:

Project Title	Length	Value (mil EUR)
Reconstruction of railway section Sopot Kosmajski - Kovačevac	18.4 km	5.39
Reconstruction of railway section Mala Krsna - Velika Plana	29.5 km	6.99
Reconstruction of railway section Golubinci - Ruma	17.9 km	5.97
Reconstruction of railway section Vinarce - Leskovac - Đorđevo	15.0 km	3.36
Reconstruction of railway section Vranjska Banja – Ristovac	17.7 km	2.48
Reconstruction of railway section Bujanovac—Bukarevac	13.8 km	3.13

Value of investment: 90 million USD

Start of project: 2013.

Investor: Serbian Railways A.d.

Contractor: RŽD International, Russian Federation

Project design: CIP Traffic Institute, Belgrade, Serbia

Source of finance: Credit of the Government of Russian Federation, with the involvement of Republic of Serbia of 15%

Project description: Project includes following works:

- Reconstruction of tracks and improvement of the elements of route with an increase of train speed and allowed axle load of 225 KN and allowed load per length meter of 80 KN/m;
- Reconstruction, sanation or replacement of bridges and culverts;
- Resonstruction and sanation of tunnels;
- Reconstruction of tracks and station facilities in railway stations;
- Revitalization of signalling and safety devices, telecommunication and contact network;

CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN THE REGION

Current and recently finished infrastructure projects in Serbia

Reconstruction, modernization and construction of double-track Belgrade-Budapest railway on sections:

Project title	Length	Status
Railway section: Belgrade - Stara Pazova	36 km	Detailed plan currently in design
Railway section: Stara Pazova - Novi Sad	40 km	Construction permit for phase one
Railway section: Novi Sad - state border with Hungary	117 km	Planning

Value of investment: Estimated investment value for creation of remaining documentation and construction works is **370 million EUR**. For the project realization it is necessary to secure the funds for participation in the loan (15% of investment value), funds for indirect and dependent expenses (preliminary estimate is the amount of **1.52 million EUR**), funds for expropriation of land for construction (preliminary estimate is **5.67 million EUR**).

Start of project: 25.12.2015, in Chuzou, China, by signing of contract between PR of China and Republic of Serbia, and PR of China and Hungary, defining principles and models of joint cooperation and outlining plan of activities.

Source of finance: Loan of the Government of the Russian Federation, with Republic of Serbia participating with 15% in the loan.

Contractor: RŽD International, Russian Federation;

Project design: CIP Traffic Institute, Belgrade, Serbia;

Description: Project encompasses reconstruction, modernization and construction of double-track railway on the section Stara Pazova—Novi Sad, with elements of the track supporting speed of 200 km/h and electrotechnical facilities in the first phase for the speed of 160 km/h. Modernized railway should enable fast, safe and high-capacity railway connection between Belgrade and Novi Sad, and ultimately to Subotica and Budapest, that is, enable high level railway service in transport of passengers and goods, with necessary measures for environment protection. As a part of this section, quality connection of Corridor Xb with Corridor X is included, via the section Indjija—Golubinci;

Project includes following construction works:

- Modernization, reconstruction and construction of tracks with improvement of elements of route for supporting the speeds up to 160 km/h and allowed axle load of 225 kN and allowed load per length meter of 80 kN/m (category D4);
- Reconstruction and construction of tunnels;
- Reconstruction and construction of bridges and culverts;
- Reconstruction and construction of tracks and station facilities in stations Indjija, Sremski Karlovci and Petrovaradin, and construction of a new station (Beška);
- Modernization and reconstruction of signalling and safety devices, telecommunications and contact network;
- Denivellation of crossings, with construction of parallel roads and access roads to objects on the railway;

CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN THE REGION

Current and recently finished infrastructure projects in Serbia

Remont and reconstruction of Belgrade (Resnik) - Vrbnica - state border with Montenegro railway (Belgrade - Bar railway):

Strategic importance: Belgrade—Bar railway (E - 79), 454.8 km long, connects Republic of Serbia and Republic of Montenegro. This is a railway of great international, regional and national importance, especially for the further development of business connections between Serbia, Montenegro, Albania and Italy. It represents a direct railway connection between Adriatic and Ionian sea and Pan-European corridors X and VII (Danube), and further toward all countries of Central and Eastern Europe. European importance of this railway was confirmed through AGC and AGTC Agreements. Direct connection of Belgrade and Serbia with Port of Bar in Montenegro.

Value of investment: Estimated value of investment for obtaining documentation and construction works is **198 million EUR**. For the project realization it is necessary to provide loan participation funds worth 15% of total investments (preliminary estimate is **1.62 million EUR**).

Start of project: 2015

Investor: Serbian Railways A.D.

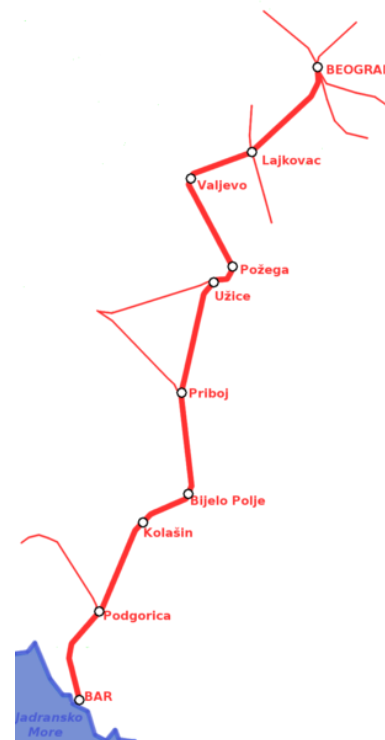
Source of finance: Loan of Government of Russian Federation, with 15% participation of Republic of Serbia

Contractor: RŽD International, Russian Federation;

Project design: CIP Traffic Institute, Belgrade, Serbia;

Project includes following activities:

- Reconstruction of tracks with an improvement of elements of route for supporting the projected speeds and allowed axle load of 225 kN and allowed load per length meter of 80 kN/m (category D4);
- Reconstruction and sanitation of tunnels;
- Reconstruction, sanitation or replacement of bridges and culverts;
- Reconstruction of tracks and station facilities in train stations;
- Revitalization of signalling-safety devices, telecommunication and contact network ;

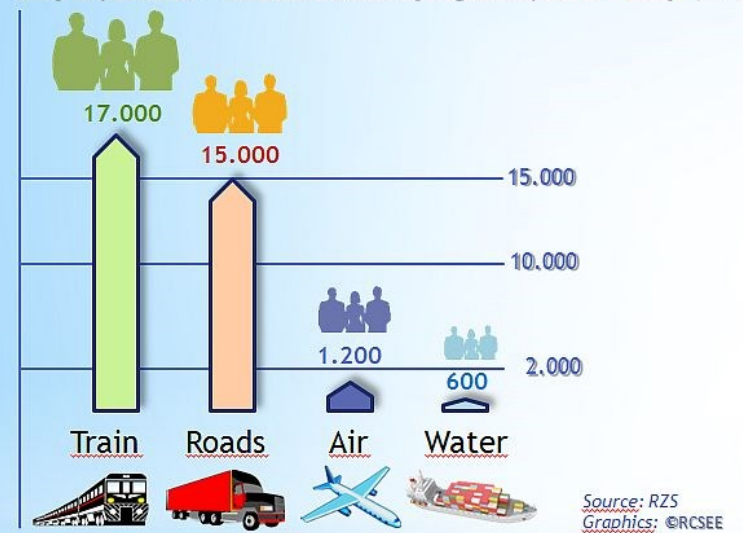


CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN THE REGION

Transport robe u Srbiji u milionima tona (2015)
(Transport of goods in Serbia in millions of tons)



Transport of goods in Serbia - Number of employees (2016)
Broj zaposlenih u oblasti saobraćajnog transporta u Srbiji (2016)



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RCSEE Delegation Visiting Member Company Đuro Đaković – Strojna obrada Ltd.

On Thursday, 08.06.2017, RCSEE representatives, Milan Vučković, Cluster Director, Dragoljub Rajić, coordinator and Marko Radović, head of Cluster marketing and IT, visited RCSEE member company Đuro Đaković Strojna obrada in Slavonski Brod (Republic of Croatia).

On this occasion RCSEE representatives were received by the director of Đuro Đaković, Mr. Hrvoje Kekez and Mr. Marin Nujić, head of sales department.

In open and informative conversation both sides expressed an interest in realization of a regional

workshop in Slavonski Brod, organized by RCSEE with support of its partners from the Republic of Croatia, Pro Rail Alliance, Croatian Chamber of Economy and Đuro Đaković Strojna Obrada company, in autumn 2017.

In addition, RCSEE representatives had an opportunity to visit production facilities of its member, see for themselves the excellent quality of its work, but also talk about issues concerning the entire region, such as outflow of educated workers from manufacturing industries into Western Europe.



Meeting of Pro Rail Alliance and RCSEE Representatives in Zagreb

On 08.06.2017. a meeting with RCSEE representatives, who traveled from Belgrade to Zagreb for this occasion, was held in the premises of Pro Rail Alliance.

Host, and cluster partner, Pro Rail Alliance, kindly organized the expanded meeting, who was attended by the representatives of following companies and institutions:

Pro Rail Alliance (Ante Klečina i prof. Vlatka Škorić), RCSEE (Dragoljub Rajić, Marko Radović i Milan Vučković), Končar-KET (Nenad Juras), Pružne građevine (Zoran Popovac), HŽ Infrastructure (Željka Mirčić with colleague), Altpro Zagreb (Mislav Kraljević) and King ICT (Oliver Smolčić and Stipan Tucak).

The meeting was moderated by colleague and host Ante Klečina, Pro Rail Alliance project manager.

In dynamic conversation participants could hear informa-

tion on current projects in the Republic of Croatia from the representatives of HŽ Infrastructure. Zoran Popovac, representative of Pružne građevine opened an interesting discussion on the need to finally intensify the regional project Kargo 10, which has been on hold for over four years now, considering its interest for all countries in the region.

In addition, RCSEE representatives presented their upcoming activities in this year. Most important of them is the expert workshop intended for manufacturing companies and national railways, planned for autumn 2017 in Slavonski Brod, with the support of experts from European Railway Agency, with which RCSEE will soon start discussing the realization of this project.

Exchange of information during the talks showed in practice that these regional meetings are necessary and provide multiple benefits.



RCSEE and Pro Rail Alliance Representatives Visiting Croatian Chamber of Economy

On Thursday, 08.06. mixed delegation of two partner organizations, RCSEE (Milan Vučković, Dragoljub Rajić and Marko Radović) and Pro Rail Alliance (Ante Klečina), visited Director of Industry and IT Sector, Tajana Kesić-Šapić, in Croatian Chamber of Economy in Zagreb.

In open conversation members of mixed delegation presented the activities of both organizations to Ms. Kesić-Šapić, as well as the plans to hold a regional workshop in Slavonski Brod in fall of 2017, with the support of European Railway Agency (ERA).



Croatian Chamber of Economy welcomed this initiative and offered its logistics support, through the local Chamber in Slavonski Brod so that an increased number of participants could attend this unique educational event.

RCSEE and Pro Rail Alliance expressed hope and desire that the current cooperation with Croatian Chamber of Economy continues and intensifies with other projects that will be implemented later in the year, as well as in the upcoming year.

RCSEE Visiting Altpro Zagreb

As a part of the recent visit to members in the Republic of Croatia, on 08.06.2017. RCSEE representatives visited Altpro company in Zagreb

The guests were welcomed by Zvonimir Viduka, director and member of the Cluster Presidency, Mislav Kraljević, executive director for corporate development and strategy and head of RCSEE's Sector for International Cooperation and Strategic Planning and Tin Viduka, head of marketing.

Interestingly, visit of RCSEE representatives coincided with the visit of World Bank representatives. Initiated by Mr.

Zvonimir Viduka, two teams had an opportunity to discuss variety of topics, primarily about the issues that small- and medium-sized companies face in Croatia and the region.

During the talks with the host, Altpro company has emphasized that it will continue to provide full support to the Cluster and its activities, especially aimed at intensifying regional cooperation.



RCSEE Representatives Visiting Railway Carriages Factory in Čakovec

As a part of business tour through Republic of Croatia, on 09.06.2017 RCSEE representatives visited its member Railway Carriages Factory (RŽV) in Čakovec, which is located only 10 km away from Slovenian border and 20 km from border with Hungary.

During the meeting, several aspects of cooperation within the Cluster were discussed. The host, also, presented their products from the newest generation of freight carriers that are produced in company workshops in Čakovec and Bjelovar.

Railway Carriages Factory Director, Dražen Vidović, said that

he was especially proud of the fact that his company won a gold medal on 45th International Exhibition of Inventions in Geneva for its product "Self prop rail". Also, the same product won a gold medal for innovation from JSC NIIAS of Russian Railways.

After very intensive conversation in which numerous information were exchanged, members of RCSEE delegation received an opportunity to visit manufacturing facilities of the host, accompanied by Mr. Vidović and head of production, Dušan Bezek, and see for themselves the high organizational quality, confirmed by many certificates owned by this successful company.



INTERNATIONAL FAIR OF RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE **iaf** IN MÜNSTER



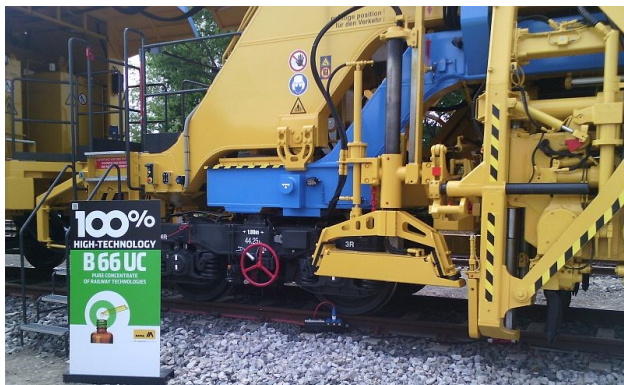
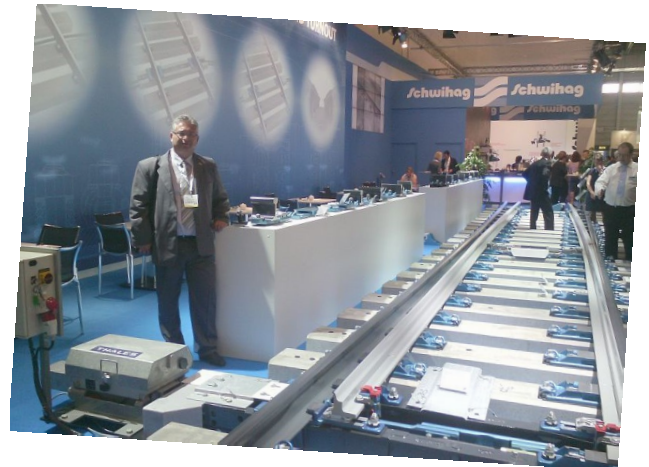
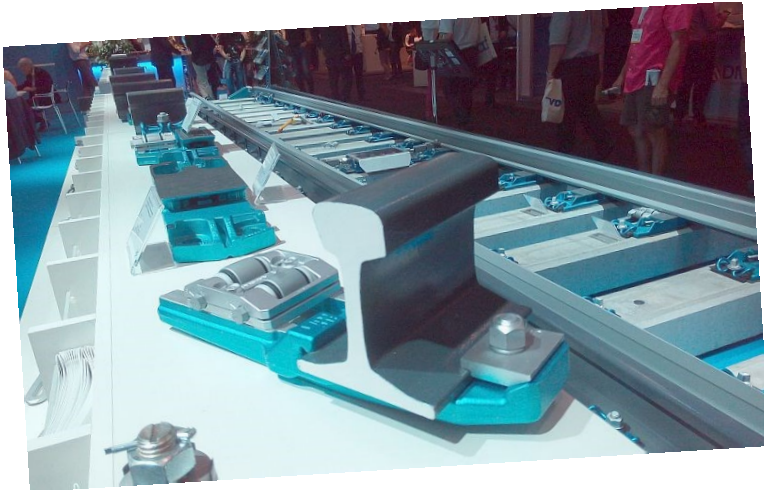
27th International Exhibition
for Track Technology

30th May - 1st June 2017 in Münster

Between 30.05 and 01.06 in Münster, Germany, 27th international fair of railway infrastructure **iaf** was held, the largest of its kind in the world, which was visited by RCSEE member, **Mr. Vlatko Sazdov** from Skopje, supervising engineer in Macedonian Railway Infrastructure. According to him it is a very high-quality fair which was attended by over 200 exhibitors from 20 countries. Thousand impressed expert visitors could witness newest infrastructure technologies and gigantic machines on 15,000 m² of exhibiting space.



Editorial staff publishes several photos sent to us by Mr. Sazdov, hoping that RCSEE will organize a group visit of its members to the fair next year.



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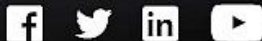
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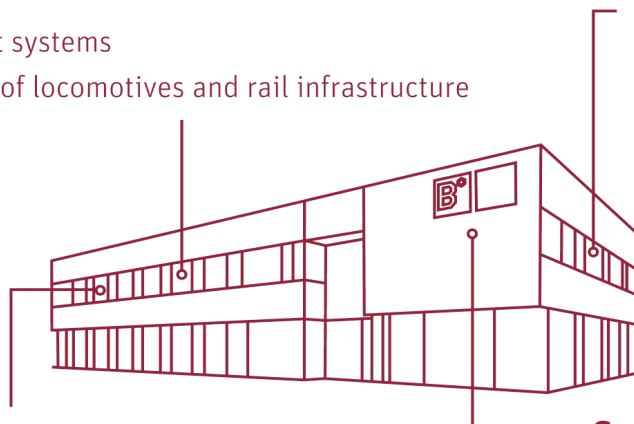
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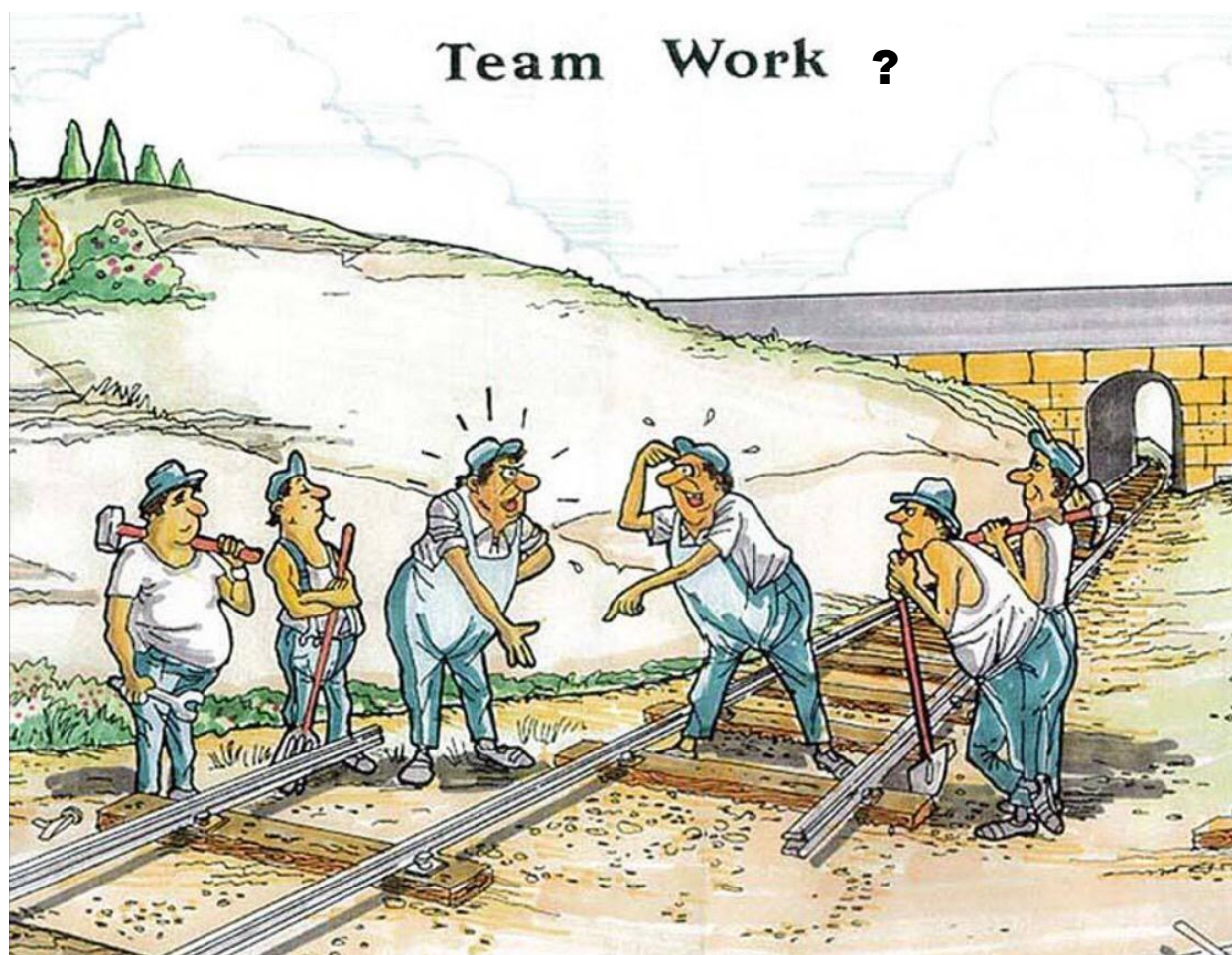
Pro Rail Alliance, Republic of Croatia

Pro Rail Alliance is non-profit umbrella association of all interested stakeholders for the improvement of railway transport in Croatia. Founded in 2008, centered in Zagreb. It is a non-profit and non-governmental organization, founded by trade unions and companies from the railway sector. Currently, it has over 30 members, among them companies and various associations.



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We connect the businesses in our region

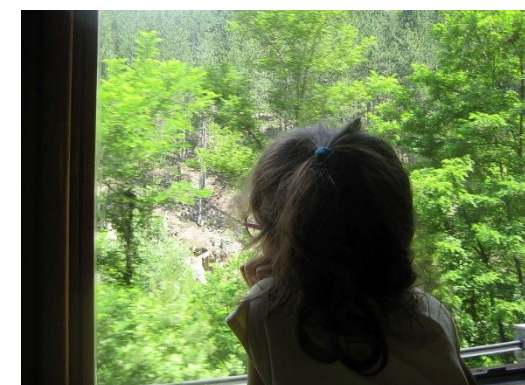


SEE RAIL *Perspective* REPORTER VISITING MUSEUM-TOURISTIC ATTRACTION “NOSTALGY” TRAIN IN SERBIA

Mokra Gora in Serbia, has two museum railways of narrow gauge in one place, so far the only in Serbia. It is interesting that both are fully functional and are a real magnet for lovers of old railways and trains.

First railway, named “Šargans eight”, with 760 mm wide track gauge, is a most attractive museum-touristic narrow gauge railway in the region. Railway curves through most beautiful mountain landscape of Mokra Gora, over 5 bridges and 22 tunnels, in a figure of eight, which gives the railway its name. Total length of the railway is 15.5 km and passes a total difference in elevation of 300m. Revitalization and renewal of hill section of previous narrow gauge railway - Višegrad - Sarajevo, on the Mokra Gora– Šargan Vitas section was finished in 2003, and from then the “Šarganska eight” became European and global tourist attraction.

Only thing negatively impacting the experience of riding this fantastic track is loud and unnecessary music, with inadequate information provided that ruins the enjoyment for which the tourists came in the first place, of riding this attractive train. Despite that, the overall impression was a perfect, enjoyable trip through nature that should not be missed (photo: Milan Vučković).



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