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Editor in Chief: Milan Vučković

Translation and marketing: Marko Radović

Design and LayOut: BSN | www.bsn.rs

Editorial: Andrijana Stefanovski, Dragoljub Rajić and Marko Radović

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Strumička 100, 11050 Beograd | E-mail: info@bsn.rs | PIB: 108639092 | MB: 28151829

(Photo on the cover page: SEE Mobility 2019)

Republic of Srpska Railways in Bosnia and Herzegovina operate with minor loss

November, Sarajevo, B&H (photo: Pixabay): Financial results of railways of Republic of Srpska in the nine months of 2021 can be considered positive, considering all limitations enforced by the business environment in the said period.

Railways of the Republic of Srpska have, despite the difficulties they are facing, secured the liquidity and solvency, have no late payment debts, regularly fulfill all obligations toward employees, state and business partners, and are prepared to enter the next phase of restructuring process.

A drop of business activities and reduced demand for transport services of Republic of Srpska Railways occurred during 2020 and 2021. Main reason is the disturbance on the global market due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the nine months of 2021, total income of 45,807,758 KM was achieved, which is 1,667,298 KM less than the previous year, while total expenses amounted to 52,099,126 KM, 8,888,115 KM less than the same period in 2020.

Cancellation of passenger transport, especially between entities, as well as the still present reduction in passenger transport negatively reflected on the income from passenger transport. Passenger transport is still conducted only on the level of entities in both railway companies of B&H.

A total of 2,341,618 passenger kilometers was achieved, 19% lower than planned, and 30% lower than in the same period last year.

In cargo transport, 3,254,975 tons of goods were transported, 22% higher than the achieved result in the same period last year, and 3% higher than it was planned.

A total of 283,395,707 net tonne-kilometers was achieved, which is 11% more than the achieved tkm in the same period in 2020, and 9% less than planned.

Considering all the facts, total business result of Republic of Srpska Railways are better than the previous period. Liquidity and solvency of the company are therefore protected.



On the photograph on the left, Railways of Republic of Srpska AD headquarters in Doboj. (Photo: internet website of Republic of Srpska railways AD)

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Croatia

Project Rijeka Brajdica

November, Rijeka:

Works on one of the more demanding projects of Croatian Railways Infrastructure, colloquially called Rijeka Brajdica, are complete. In the two years lot of construction was accomplished: a complete reconstruction of foundation and permanent way were performed on eight tracks, station lightning was replaced, contact network was reconstructed, and the new facility for dizel generator was built. Four new concrete tracks were constructed on the area of Port of Rijeka, new crane paths for lifts, parking space and drain and separator for rainwater. Existing tunnel Sušak was expanded, tunnel interior was equipped with fire-protection systems and a access tunnel in case of fire was constructed. Contact network was tested by measuring train, terrain surrounding the construction site was arranged, and signaling-safety devices were tested. National technical inspection was performed and use permit was granted, and the Railway Transport Safety Agency gave permission for use for infrastructure subsystems.

(Source: site *HŽ Infrastruktura*)



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Free internet and mobile ticketing app in Serbian trains soon to come

November, Beograd: General Directors of “Serbian Railways Infrastructure”, Nebojša Šurlan, “Serbia Train” Jugoslav Jović and “Telecom Serbia” Vladimir Lučić, in the presence of Minister of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure Tomislav Momirovića, signed on November 6 2021 Memorandum of Understanding in order to improve user experience of passengers on Serbian railways.

Memorandum was symbolically signed in the new, most modern train of Serbian railways made for speeds of 200 km/h, in the railway station Belgrade-center. (Source: Internet website of Serbian Railways Infrastructure).





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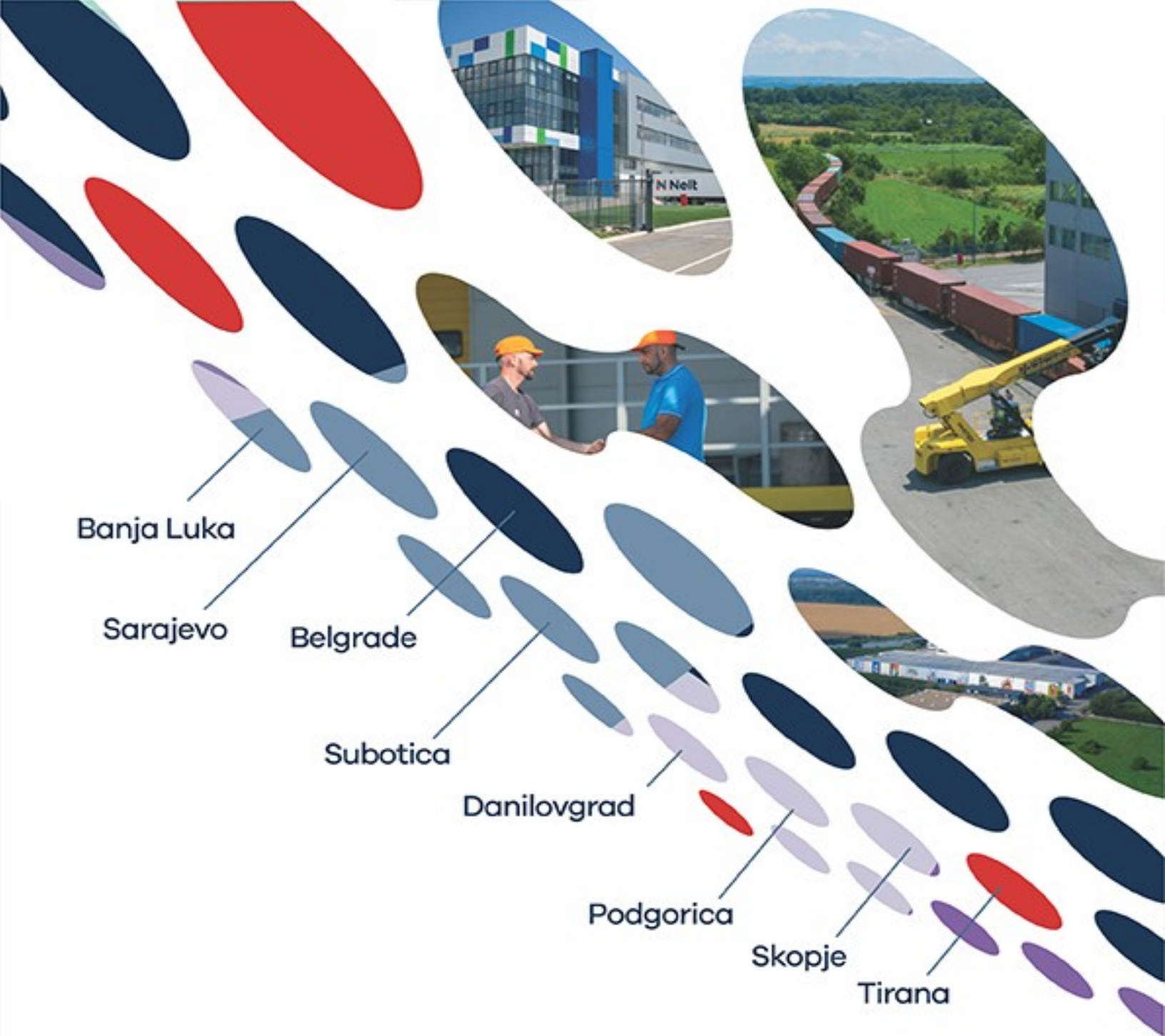
First modern train arrives in Serbia

October, Belgrade: In the presence of Serbian President, Aleksandar Vučić, and the Ambassador of Switzerland in Serbia Philippe Guex, a handover was performed of first and most modern high-speed train that finally arrived on Serbian railways.

On October 29, 2021, President of the Republic attended the handover of new train for Serbia „Stadler KISS“, by the Swiss company “Stadler Bussnang AG”, as well as the first drive from railway station New Belgrade to station Belgrade-Center.

This is just first of the three trains of this type, and the other two will be delivered in the future. The price is around 52 mil EUR.





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Slovenia

Joint undertaking of Slovenian Railways and Czech EP Logistics

September, Ljubljana: Importance of cooperation between companies from the logistics sector and national railways is shown by the news that recently European Commission approved joint venture between Slovenian Railways (SŽ) and EP Logistics International company (EPLI), in the field of intermodal railway freight transport. The two companies will form a joint venture, that will encompass SŽ Cargo Transport and Feršped.



EPLI company is part of Czech EP Holdinga, which was selected for strategic partnership by Slovenian railways in the area of freight transport and logistics. In the new company Czechs will have 49%, and Slovenians 51% ownership. As announced earlier, goal of strategic partnership is creation of leading company in the field of logistics in Southeast Europe.

Transaction was examined in the context of usual merger control, and the Commission concluded that it will not cause concern for the market competition, that company activities are significantly complimentary and aimed at dif-

ferent Member States of the EU, says the European Commission office in Slovenia.

(Photo: Slovenian Railways internet website)



Montenegro

Railway workers day in Montenegro commemorated on November 2

November, Podgorica: Railway workers day was recently commemorated in Montenegro. On November 2, 113 years ago, first Montenegrin railway started operating on section Bar—Virpazar and was 43 km long. Construction of this railway lasted from 1906 to 1908.

Executive Director of Montenegro Railway Infrastructure, Marina Bošković, congratulated all employees saying that “Railway still is most ecologically acceptable way of transporting people and goods, and we are planning new infrastructure works on renewal and modernization of Montenegrin railways that will economically empower our country.

Development of railways is a symbol of progress of entire state and society, and largest contribution to the modernization is given by the railway workers!



Today, November 2– Railway workers day, we celebrate while working, responsibly and modestly with professional contribution to creation of modern railway, intending to become important on the railway map of Europe.

To all employees in “Railway Infrastructure of Montenegro AD” I congratulate Railway Workers Day and desire to achieve new business successes in the upcoming period!”



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“SEE MOBILITY 2021” HELD IN BELGRADE

SEE Mobility fair was held in Belgrade with two days of exhibition program in Hotel Yugoslavia (15 and 16 September) and an additional day (17 September) during which a visit to the largest industrial park for railway industry companies in South-east Europe – MIND Park in Lužnice, Kragujevac, was organized for the exhibitors and international visitors of the fair.

Additional activity for the exhibitors and guests of the fair was a visit to dry port Nelt in Dobanovci, which represents the largest private intermodal terminal in Serbia.

SEE Mobility 2021 was held with the support of:

- **Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure** in the Government of the Republic of Serbia, as a honorary patron of SEE Mobility 2021
 - Gold partner country of the fair, **United Kingdom**
 - General sponsor of the fair, world largest railway industry cluster **Rail Alliance** from the United Kingdom, together with the leading **Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education (BCRRE)**, part of University of Birmingham.
 - Golden sponsors, **Deutsche Bahn** (Germany), **Thales** (Austria), **Altpro** (Croatia), **MIND Park (Milanovic Industries Group, Serbia)**, **Nelt Group (Serbia)** and **Darpol sp. (Poland)**.
 - Silver sponsors, **MV Automation** (Germany) and **ELNOS BL** (Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia)
 - Honorary partner of the fair, **ERCI** (European Railway Clusters Initiative)
 - And international media partners **Railway Gazette International**, **RailwayTarget**, **RailwayPRO** and **Railways Explained**
- Other railway companies attended the fair as exhibitors and visitors, together with their suppliers from Serbia, Croatia, Austria, Germany, Slovenia, Poland, Russia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Northern Macedonia, Spain, Romania, Hungary, Czech Republic, Switzerland, and the special group of companies, Rail Alliance members from UK, as a sponsor country. More on SEE Mobility 2021 can be found at <http://see-mobility.com/>





Fair detail: First time the fair Belgrade was attended by a Polish company (Darpol)



Fair detail: Good mood is always present on the stand of Altpro company from Zagreb.



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MEDIA IN SERBIA ON OUR “SEE MOBILITY 2021” FAIR

All most important media in Serbia, as well as in the region, published first the announcement of our fair, and then the extensive photo and video reports. We would like to thank, first and foremost, national news agency TANJUG that composed an excellent report, and then the national TV RTS 1 for reporting about this in its most important informative programme. Fair did start on September 15, Railway Workers Day in Serbia. Here is the text of RTS news coverage, and from their website in a somewhat abbreviated version::

Fair of railway technologies in Belgrade opened on Railway Workers of Serbia Day

BELGRADE - Third Fair of railway technologies called “Southeast Europe Mobility 2021” was opened today in Belgrade, and on it, companies from 16 countries of Europe and the region will present new technologies in the railway sector.

At the fair opening Minister of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure Tomislav Momirović spoke, who congratulated all railway workers the Railway Workers Day, September 15. Minister reminded that the first railway in Serbia began construction in 1881, from Belgrade to Niš, and was finished in 1884, and that the railway, apart from the army, is an institution with longest tradition. He reminded that 2021 is European year of rail, and that in this year Serbia will finish currently most important project. He noted that that is the section of Belgrade-Budapest rail. Momirović noted that the railways in the region are facing a number of issues, chief among them was multiple hours holdup on the border crossings. In order for future of railway to be ensured, Momirović said, it is important to invest in the knowledge of the young, and announced that five million euros will be invested in Railway school.

Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure is honorary partner of the fair, and partner country is United Kingdom. Ambassador of that country in Serbia **Sian MacLeod** spoke at the opening and expressed her satisfaction that United Kingdom is a partner country to the fair. She expressed satisfaction for British railway companies that are attending the fair and are going to share their knowledge and experience with colleagues from Serbia and others in the region.

Ambassador of Poland in Serbia, **Rafal Pavel Perl** also spoke on the opening of the fair and listed several important projects in the railway sector, among which are Visegrad fast rail and Via Carpathia. Perl noted that by connecting Belgrade and Budapest through fast rail, Belgrade will be connected via fast rail with Warsaw, Prague and Bratislava, which is the goal of Visegrad fast rail project.



Director of Railway Cluster for Southeast Europe **Dragoljub Rajić** expressed pleasure that the today's fair was held despite numerous challenges of the epidemics. He noted that it is a third railway fair in Belgrade and that this one is the most successful by the number of participants. He explained that the fair is dedicated to the research in the railway sector.

Dean of Belgrade Faculty of Transport **Nebojša Bojović** underlined the importance of investment in knowledge and education of future railway sector workers and concluded that Serbia possesses human resources that can answer to all the challenges in that area.

(Source: TANJUG , RTS...)

SEE Mobility 2021 photo gallery:



H.E. Mrs. Sian Christina MacLeod, UK Ambassador in Republic of Serbia



Tomislav Momirović, Minister of construction, transport and infrastructure



H.E. Mr. Rafal Pawel Perl, Ambassador of Poland in Republic of Serbia



Miroslav Prokić, Railways Explained



Dragoljub Rajić, RCSEE Director



Prof. dr Nebojša Bojović, Dean of Belgrade Faculty of Transport



Fair Detail: **Alex Burows** in action, Vanguard company from UK



Participants in the fair panel discussion: *Railway research, innovations and implementation of new technologies in Southeast Europe region*



Fair sponsors received handmade artworks as gifts from organizers, RCSEE

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SEE Mobility 2021 photo-report:

On the second day of fair, a visit to largest private intermodal terminal, owned by **NELT company** was organized. **NELT** was one of the fair golden sponsors.

A cocktail was organized for the guests, with degustation of domestic wines.



Third day of the fair was dedicated to the visit to another of our gold fair sponsors, **MIND PARK company**. Together with the visit to many of the production halls, a presentation of the company was held in the main building with the presence of **Tomislav Momirović**, Minister of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure in the Government of the Republic of Serbia.



Winners of the ERCI Innovation Awards 2021

On Tuesday 26 October 2021, during the SIFER Expo at Lille Grand Palais, the European Railway Clusters Initiative (ERCI) awarded prizes to the best European innovations in the railway industry from those companies who submitted applications to the annual ERCI Railway Innovation Competition. The competition identifies the best innovation from Large Enterprises as well as deciding on the best innovation from the Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) nominations.

The competition also identifies 'Coup de Cœur' awards from the remaining SME nominations where the jury identified particularly strong nominations that were worthy of special recognition. It goes without saying, that without any nominations, there could not be a competition and all 23 nominations and their parent railway clusters are to be commended on submitting the nominations under particularly challenging circumstances. Encouragingly, the submissions for 2021 amounted to a significant increase on the previous year's submissions.

Given there are some early signs of recovery from the global COVID pandemic, it has been particularly rewarding to be able to stage this year's ceremony as an 'in person' event during the SIFER 2021 Expo at the Lille Grand Palais, Lille, France.

We are most grateful to Mr Abdelkrim Talaalout, Head of the Autonomous Train Program at RAIENIUM for his most valuable contribution as Chairperson of the ERCI Railway Innovation Competition Jury and for presenting the awards during the ERCI Innovation Awards Ceremony.

The 2021 ERCI Innovation Awards

The 23 participating companies have had their submissions assessed by a European Jury composed of railway experts from Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom. The following companies have been presented with their ERCI Innovation Awards:

Best Small and Medium Enterprise: PJ Monitoring (PJM) GmbH with their innovative 'Waggon Tracker'. PJM are based in Austria and are members of the ACStyria Railway Cluster. Company: PJM is an internationally renowned specialist in the field of railway systems. Based in Austria, PJM is a technology leader for a wide range of forward-looking solutions and railway automation: www.pjm.co.at

Best Large Enterprise: Bozankaya with their innovative 'Bozankaya Battery Tram'. Bozankaya are based in Turkey and are members of the ARUS Railway Cluster. Website: www.bozankaya.com

Coup de Cœur Awards:

EverySens with their innovation 'TVMS'. EverySens are based in France and are members of the iTrans railway cluster. Website: www.eversens.com

PANTOhealth GmbH with their innovation 'Predictive Maintenance via Real & Synthetic Data'. PANTOhealth are based in Germany and are members of the Transport, Mobility and Logistics cluster Berlin-Brandenburg. Website: www.pantohealth.com

Te.Si.Fer Srl with their innovation 'SmartTrack'. Te.Si.Fer Srl are based in Italy and are members of the DITECFER railway cluster. Website: www.tesifer.it

Many thanks to the ERCI Railway Innovation Competition team for all their hard work and all the companies which participated this year and we look forward to seeing you in 2022 for a new edition of the ERCI Innovation Awards!





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