



Featured Topic: InnoTrans 2022



Soon: Int. fair "SEE Mobility 2023" (30 31 May)

N 18

01/2022

SEE RAIL Perspective

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B&H: Representatives of IMF and WorldBank visiting B&H

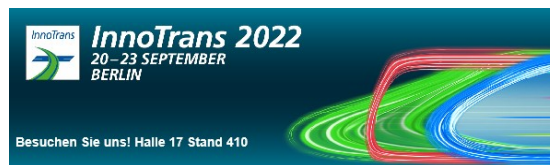
Croatia: Končar to manufacture 7 locomotives for Croatian Railways

Slovenia: Slovenian Railways received 52 new trains from *Stadler*

Montenegro: State to better position Port of Bar

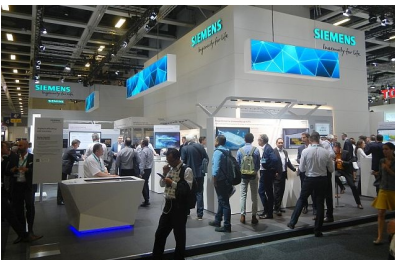
N. Macedonia: Starting 200 mil EUR worth of railway renewal works

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- ✓ Winners of ERCI Innovation Awards 2022.



- ✓ Third STARS consortia meeting held in Istanbul
- ✓ Deconpro from Slovenia and Nelt Group from Serbia join RCSEE

IMPRESSUM

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(Cover photo: InnoTrans Berlin 2018, Izvor: innotrans.de)



SEE Mobility is the only international fair on the Western Balkans for transport technologies and services, to be held biannually.

The fair encompasses following areas: Road, railway and public transport technologies, railway and public transport infrastructure, interior and exterior in road and railway vehicles with accompanying services and tunnel construction.

Our fair is a growing one and as such it offers a unique opportunity for concrete expansion of business activities of your company and the possibility to present your products, services and new technical solutions to a very dynamic market that encompasses 7 countries with over 30 million inhabitants.

The 4th SEE Mobility will be held on May 30 and 31 in Belgrade's Hotel Jugoslavija. The motto of SEE Mobility 2023 is "Connectivity for the future", which puts additional emphasis on railways and logistics as two pillars of the 21st-century mobility industry.

Besides the two exhibition days, additional visits to leading companies and industrial parks in Serbia, specially organized for exhibitors and guests of the fair, are planned for the afternoon of May 31 (Nelt Group intermodal logistic hub) and on June 1, 2023 (MIND Group industry park). The offer for sponsors and exhibitors of the fair is diverse and favorable, so they will have a good opportunity to network with new partners and expand the business contacts during the three days of the program.

So, apply in time as the number of stands is limited and certain number is already reserved for the sponsors! Do not wait too much. All information for exhibitors and visitors can be found at: www.see-mobility.com



Next SEE Mobility 2023, Belgrade, 30 - 31 may

More at: www.see-mobility.com

Business Cooperation Instead of Political Hate at Innotrans 2022.

Dear readers, RCSEE members and friends,



This year in our branch was marked by Innotrans 2022 fair for many reasons: due to COVID-19 pandemics it wasn't held in 2020 or 2021. But this year finally, and to the delight of all its fans, it was.

A total of 137,394 expert visitors from 131 countries came to Berlin (in 2018 there were over 160,000) in order to see and experience new technologies, 2,834 exhibitors from 56 countries, around 250 innovation premieres (in 2018 over 400) to establish new business contacts. Out of the total number of visitors, 57% came from abroad.

Chinese exhibitors were less in number than in 2018 and there were no companies from Russian Federation.

Main topic of this issue is Innotrans 2022 fair, but more in the context of participation and activities of visitors and exhibitors from our region.

After all the events and deepening of the global energy and economic crisis due to the war happening in the Eastern Europe, it is now, more than ever, necessary to network and cooperate among all European companies. Not only in our sector.

Improvement of business cooperation was always a priority for business sector and businessmen. It is in no-one's interest further escalation of the current war. Especially not to the global economy.

This years meetings at Innotrans were therefore important: for good and positive energy of all participants, exhibitors and visitors and their joint hope for peace,

With respect and hope for peace coming soon, with building of new bridges of reconciliation, with kind regards to everyone

Milan Vučković

RCSEE Coordinator

Chief Editor *SEE RAIL Perspective*





IMF and Worldbank representatives visit key sights and projects

September, Sarajevo, B&H: After successful meeting of Constituents, group of member countries of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF), that Bosnia and Herzegovina are a part of, delegation of high IMF and



World Bank representatives went on to visit key sights and projects of Worldbank. On that occasion, on 16.09.2022 a special VIP train was organized on Sarajevo-Mostar-Sarajevo route. Passengers of the VIP train were representatives of 16 IMF countries, ministers of finance and governors of participating countries, Minister of foreign affairs Bisera Turković and Governor of National Bank of B&H Senad Softić. In this



manner, Bosnia and Herzegovina marks 30 years of membership in World Bank and IMF.

(Source and Photos: Railways of Federation of B&H)

Plans for large modernization of Railways of Republic of Srpska

September, Doboj: Railways of Republic of Srpska are planning a detailed modernization of railway tracks, as well as



procurement of new trains by 2035 the latest. Last year, Chinese company „China Railway Design corporation“ (CRDC) has done and submitted a document titled “Analysis of the condition of railway system in Republic of Srpska with plans for its improvement”.

Analysis offers possible scenarios of modernization, in short term by 2025, mid-term by 2030 and long-term by 2035. This predicts the renewal of infrastructure, procurement of new trains, procurement and financing of mechanization of railway infrastructure with the objective of making it the support of the company.



Analysis proposes modernization and increase in number of trains, increase in train length, increase in track usage, safety, reduced train travel time and energy consumption, as well as reduced effect on the environment and increase of economic activity in railway zones.

(Source and photos: Railways of Republic of Srpska)



“Končar electric vehicles” to manufacture 7 diesel-electric trains for Croatian Railways

October, Zagreb: Signing the addendum to the Agreement marks the continuation of the cooperation of Croatian Railways with Končar - Electric Vehicles. It was signed by president of the management board of Croatian Railways Passenger Transport **Željko Ukić** and member of the board **Damir Rubčić**, and president of the management board of Končar **Josip Ninić**. Manufacture of 7 new diesel-electric trains will be financed by loan of EU-ROFIMA amounting to 31 million EUR.

Modernisation of railway system is in the focus of Ministry of Maritime Affairs, transport and Infrastructure and Croatian government. In the next 10 years significant resources will be invested in renewal of fleet and infrastructure. Goal is to increase the number of passengers traveling by train everyday, that is, ensure the quality mobility of citizens using public transport.

Currently in Croatia 6 new diesel-electric trains are running, and 7 more such trains will increase the quality of service on non-electrified rails. These trains will ensure lower operational costs and contribute to the reduction of environmental impact. Considering that 63% of railways in Croatia are non-electrified, as a part of Operational Programme Competitiveness and Cohesion 2021-2027 plans are for further procurement of trains for those tracks. Currently, a study is being made which will include the trains and modernization of maintenance workshops.

Croatian Railways Passenger Transport currently has 40 new trains running. New trains will be continually produced during this and the upcoming two years, and by the mid-2025 there will be 70 new operational trains.

(Source and Photo: Croatian Railways)



Conference Sutra 2022 - for sustainable transport tomorrow

October, Opatija: Maritime faculty of Rijeka University, together with University of North Varaždin/Koprivnica, organized a science conference “International Conference on Sustainable Transport – SuTra 2022” in Opatija, from September 28 to October 1. The conference was attended, together with deans and rectors, the Minister of Tourism, **Nikolina Brnjac**. It was also attended by the president of **Alliance for Railways**, **Ante Klečina**, as an author, panelist and moderator.

This is a first international conference dedicated to sustainable maritime transport and sustainable mobility in Croatia. All works presented were target-written to support sustainable transport, both environmental, social and economical. Organizers and participants were very pleased with this first SuTra conference, and Organizatori i sudionici bili su vrlo zadovoljni ovim prvim izdanjem SuTra konferencije, and the organizational board has already announced that it will soon begin with the preparation for next year, for **SuTra 2023** conference.

(Source and Photo: Alliance for Railways)





SLOVENIA

Slovenian Railways received 52 new modern trains from Stadler

September, Ljubljana: On Friday September 30, Slovenian railways received last out of 52 new modern trains manufactured by Stadler. The railways will from now on be operated by 21 electric multiple-unit FLIRT trains, 10 electric bilevel KISS trains and 21 diesel multiple unit FLIRT trains.

New trains offer passengers higher comfort and functionality. They have higher acceleration and cruise speed of 160 km/h. Modern trains enable easier boarding and disembarkment, including people with reduced mobility as all trains have retractable staircase and additional mobile ramp for wheelchairs. Modern PIC is available, adjusted for passengers with disabilities. Seats are equipped with electric plugs sockets for charging of mobile devices, and free Wi-Fi is offered onboard. They offer more space for transport of bicycles, large panorama windows, larger toilets, etc. Ecological aspect is also significant, as these trains have high energy efficiency.

Director General of Slovenian Railways **Dušan Mes** said: „Sustainable mobility is tied in with quality. This is the basis for attracting an even greater number of passengers in public transport. We now have 52 new passenger trains on our railways, and these days we are finishing a tender for 20 new ones. By the end of 2024 we will have 72 new trains.”

(Source and photo: Slovenian Railways)



MONTENEGRO

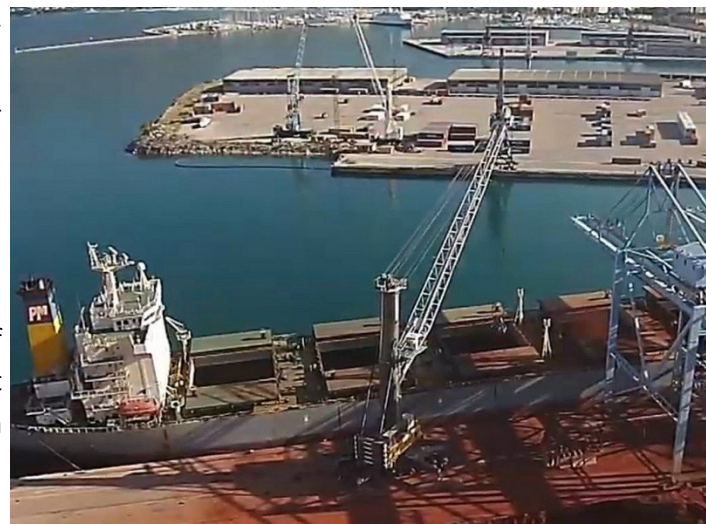
State to better position Port of Bar and its multimodal potentials

October, Podgorica: Ministry of Capital Investment will cooperate with relevant business subjects and will strongly support the initiative that aims to better position the port of Bar, considering capacities and potentials it possesses, stated the Minister **Ervin Ibrahimović**.

Ibrahimović met with the representatives of the Port of Bar, Montenegro, Railway Infrastructure of Montenegro, and MSC company, in order to discuss the transit potential and the development of multimodal transport of Montenegro.

It was agreed to intensify the work of Coordination board with Chamber of Commerce with the objective of following, analyzing and improving business in logistic activities in Montenegro, creating conditions for complete and efficient development of the potentials of Port of Bar and connected systems, and cooperation with relevant state institutions, industries and chamber and other associations in country and abroad—states the press release of the ministry.

(Source: e-kapija)





Cooperation of Serbia and Switzerland on modernization of Serbian railways

October, Bern: Recently a meeting of highest representatives of two ministries in charge of railway transport was held in Switzerland.

“We will cooperate further on electrification of certain sections in Serbia, but today we discussed about procurement of new hybrid trains from Switzerland on electric and battery power for sections in Serbia which are not electrified”, said the Minister of construction, transport and infrastructure **Tomislav Momirović** on October 18, 2022. during his official visit to Switzerland and meeting held with Head of Federal Department of Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications of Switzerland, **Simonetta Sommaruga**.



North Macedonia

Works begin on construction and renewal of railways worth 200 mil EUR

North Macedonia awarded contracts worth 200 mil EUR for construction of two sections of Pan-European railway Corridor VIII and renewal of Corridor X section.

Strabag will construct Corridor VIII section Koridora Kumanovo – Beljakovce, while **Gulermak** will construct section Beljakovce – Kriva Palanka toward border with Bulgaria. Project includes the construction of single-track electrified railway with 14 stations and 12 bridges.

Strabag is also to renew section Negotino – Nogaevci, 31 km long of Corridor X, and project will last for six months.

Minister of Transport **Blagoj Bočvarski** said that the project Kumanovo – Beljakovce, 31 km in length will cost 40 mil EUR and will be constructed by 2024, while the Beljakovce – Kriva Palanka track 34 km in length will cost 155 mil EUR and will be completed by 2025.

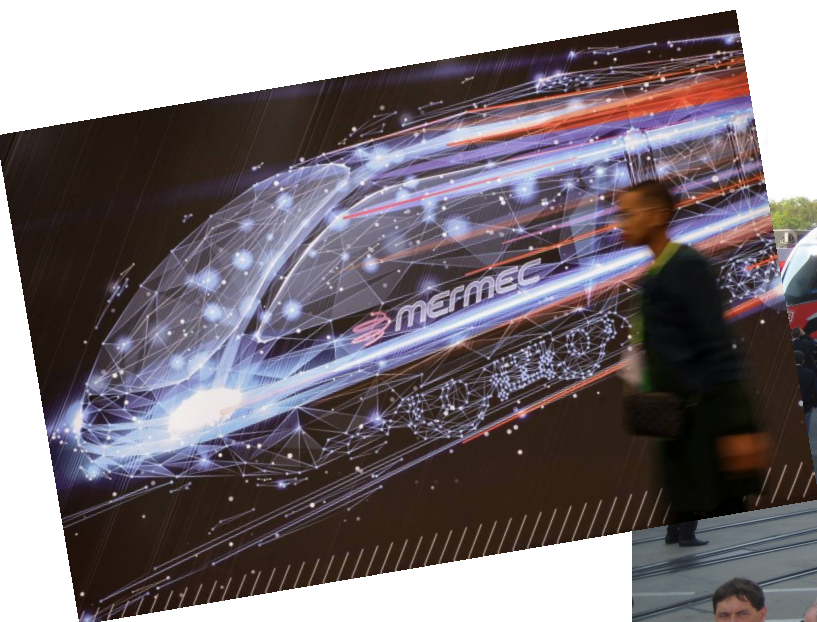
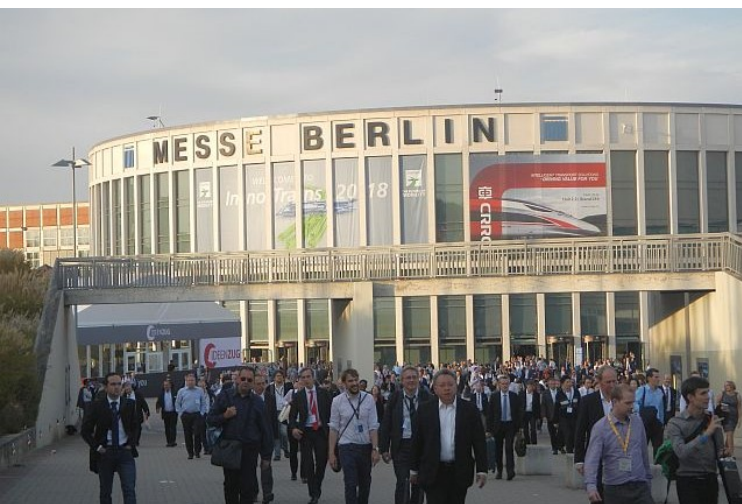
Kumanovo – Kriva Palanka section will be financed out of the 68,5 mil EUR grant from Investment Framework of European Union for Western Balkans and through the loan of European Bank for Renewal and Development (EBRD).

Director of Management for Infrastructure of North Macedonia (HRMV Infrastruktura), **Hari Lokvenec**, said that it is more than 50% of funds for the construction of final section from Kriva Palanka to national border with Bulgaria were secured, with the obligation of EU to secure non-refundable funds of 155 mil EUR through the Western Balkans Framework and 61 mil EUR through EU Pre-Accession Assistance program (IPA), says railjournal.com

InnoTrans 2022 Berlin larger for two new halls

After four years, thirteenth fair of transport technologies Innotrans was held in Berlin, from 20 to 23 September 2022. Fair gathered 2,834 exhibitors from 56 countries and over 140,000 visitors from 131 countries, confirming its status as one of the globally most important events for railway industry.

Special accent was on innovations, and 250 new products had their world premier on this fair.



RCSEE representatives and members at InnoTrans 2022

As previous years, the RCSEE members exhibited at the fair. During the four fair days, RCSEE delegation visited exhibitors from our region, and held a large number of meetings with partners and companies present at the fair. RCSEE representatives actively participated as well in all ERCI activities during the Innotrans 2022.

RCSEE delegation visited numerous exhibitors from the SEE region and other potential members from European countries that have shown interest for all our activities.



Left to right: Jens Müller (MV automation systems), Dragoljub Rajić and Marko Radović (RCSEE)



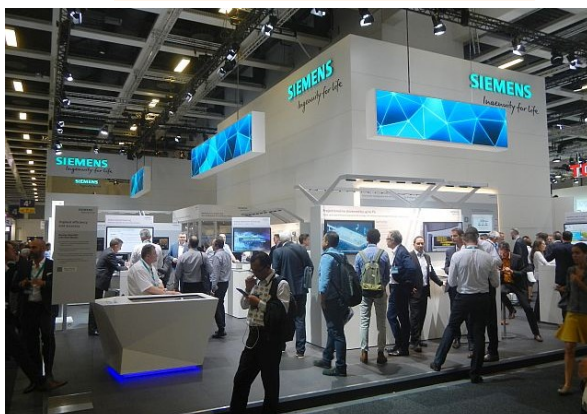
Novatronic, Serbia, RCSEE member



D&T, Italy, RCSEE Member



Đuro Đaković Strojna Obrada, Croatia, RCSEE Member



Siemens Mobility, RCSEE Member

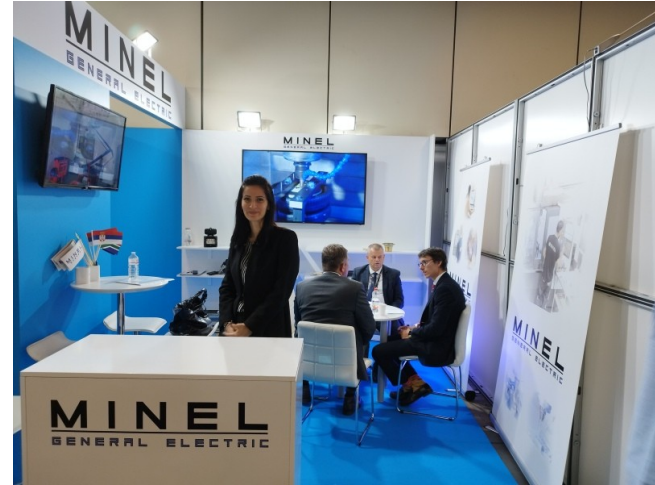


Thales, RCSEE Member

RCSEE representatives and members at InnoTrans 2022



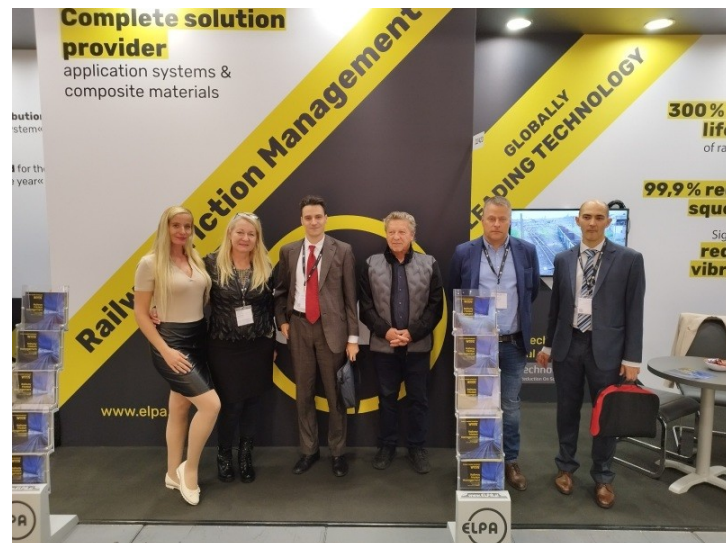
Altpro, Croatia, RCSEE member



Minel GE, Serbia, RCSEE member



MIND Group, Serbia, RCSEE member



ELPA, Slovenia, RCSEE member



ERCI legal entity opening



Schwiag, Switzerland, RCSEE member

Winners of the ERCI Innovation Awards 2022

On Wednesday 21 September 2022, during the InnoTrans Rail Expo in Berlin, 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 Coeur' awards from the remaining nominations where the jury identified particularly strong nominations that were worthy of special recognition

The 31 participating companies have had their submissions assessed by a European Jury composed of railway experts from Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, SEE region, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom. The following companies were selected as winning entries and have been awarded ERCI Innovation Awards as follows:

Best Small and Medium Enterprise:

Vanguard Sustainable Transport Solutions their innovative 'Hybrid/Hydrogen Traction System' system. Vanguard STS are based in the United Kingdom and are members of the BRIC railway cluster, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom.

Best Large Enterprise:

iXblue with their innovative 'virtual balises concept'. iXblue are headquartered in France with other global locations and are members of the i-Trans Railway Cluster.

Coup de Coeur Award:

Metrotenerife (Metropolitano de Tenerife S.A.) with their innovation 'Removable Insulating Chamber for Grooved Rails'. Metrotenerife are based in Spain and are members of the MAFEX railway cluster.



SEERRIN workshop held at Innotrans

A workshop of Southeast Europe Railway Research and Innovation Network (SEERRIN) was held during international fair Innotrans 2022. Workshop was held on 22 September, at the stand of Birmingham Center for Railway Research and Education (BCRRE) in Hall A City Cube.

During the workshop, **Dragoljub Rajić** (RCSEE) and **Alexander Burrows** (BCRRE) presented SEERRIN, plans for development of this network and all positive impacts of SERRIN on SEE region railway industry and academia.



Alex Burrows (BCRRE)



Dragoljub Rajić (RCSEE)

STARS 3rd consortium meeting in Istanbul

After two days of meetings in Teknopark Istanbul the STRategic Alliances boosting Railway SMEs (STARS) consortium is ready to start with the project activities together with the SMEs!

During these days we have been working on technical and business assistance activities that the SMEs of the sector will receive for implementing Advanced Technologies.

In addition to the Hackathon events, solutions to traditional SMEs problems will be sought.

The outcomes from this intensive 2-day session were:

- Hack&Match event rules set up and validation
 - Technical assistance methodology validation
 - Approval of business support activities delivered by clusters and other organizations to STARS SMEs
- Determination of the most suitable communication, inspiration, and dissemination tools for the first period of activities.



Implementation of new technologies in Serbia

ELPA installed advanced technology against wear of railway tracks and high-frequency noise in Svrlijig (Serbia)

Slovenian company ELPA is global pioneer and only company specialized for solving issue of high-frequency noise in curves. Its technology successfully removed high-frequency noise for almost two decades. Additionally, it should be noted that the noise reduction is only the most obvious evidence of good friction management, therefore, the technology achieves excellent results in the reduction of wear and tear of railways and rolling stock wheels. This is the only technology constructed on both necessary pillars for efficient friction management: composite materials and devices for their application. As the technology that provides complete solution, it guarantees maximum results immediately after installation, even in the most demanding points.

At the problem point in Svrlijig we can expect significant reduction in maintenance costs for rails, but also reduced wear and tear for wheelsets passing through the curve. In practice, there is often need for grinding and change of damaged rails, which is done 3 times in 10 years. As these are expensive operations, investing into ELPA technology offers very high ROI—return of investment. On average, the device pays itself after two years of use.

Railway sector in Serbia and other countries in the SEE region is inadequately supplied with safe and efficient technology for friction management. Significant resources are spent on removal of damage caused by wear and tear. Also, inefficient and outdated technologies have very high maintenance costs. ELPA devices installed by the railway tracks are on average refilled only twice per year, as they use a perfected composite material with more than 40% hard particles.

In comparison with the average rail lubricant that contains less than 10% of hard particles, ELPA solution has 5-7 times less expenditure in use. Apart from exceptional savings on rail maintenance, low expenditure of composite material and elimination of high-frequency noise harmful for health are main arguments for investment in the most green technology in the area of rail and wheels lubricants.

ELPA is locally present in Western Balkans, so it can provide good after-sales support for its technology, and with its rich experience and knowledge can always provide quality advice for friction management for the purpose of quality maintenance of railway vehicles and infrastructure.

More information on the technology and testimonies from satisfied users can be found at www.elpa.si



Advanced solutions for disinfection of spaces and passengers

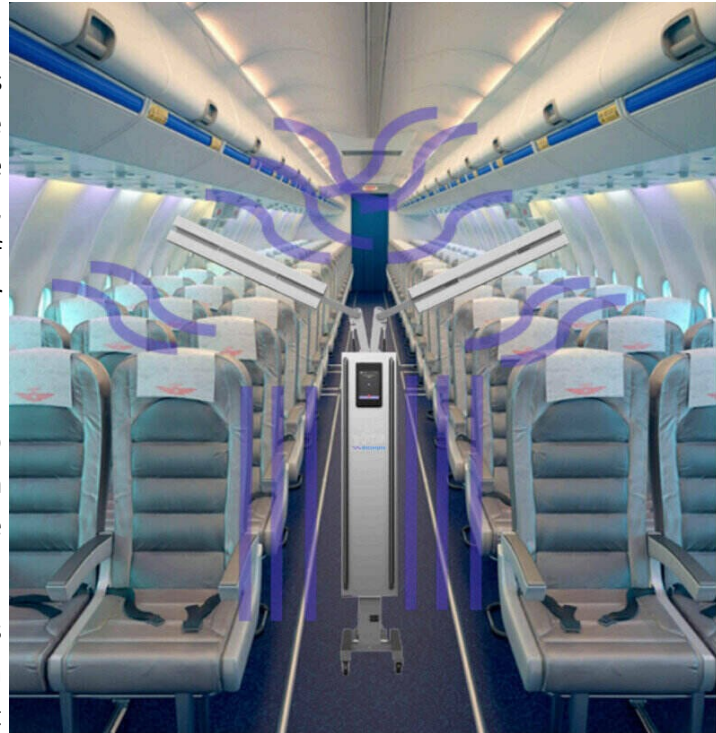
RCSEE member, **Deconpro** company from Ljubljana, Slovenia, presented its advanced solutions for disinfection of spaces and passengers in public transport, based on ultraviolet radiation.

Solution offered by Deconpro, in the form of its product Fuselage, is based on UV-C lamps that radiate and destroy and prevent the development of microorganisms and pathogens. Also, they enable quick and easy disinfection of space in public transport (trains, trams, metro and airplanes), as the beams penetrate every point of the room, and are equipped with protection box containing air quality sensors, ensuring the safety of the operator.

Supplementary solutions come in the form of Shoes Decontaminator, an UV solutions for shoes disinfection, Womb system for decontamination of clothes and uniforms, Spider system for decontamination of larger enclosed spaces, and portable solutions.

We are all aware the challenges recent COVID-19 pandemics presented for public transport, and it is our pleasure that SEE region companies can present modern and competitive solutions that increase health safety of passengers and staff.

More information on Deconpro can be found at their internet presentation, <http://www.deconpro.eu>



GREETINGS TO NEW RCSEE MEMBERS:

RCSEE greets its new members:



DECONPRO d.o.o., Slovenija: <https://deconpro.eu>



NELT Co. d.o.o, Srbija: <http://www.nelt.com>

NELT Group new RCSEE member

New RCSEE member, **Nelt Group** has a reputation of being one of the most successful business systems in the Western Balkans in the field of logistics and distribution of fast moving consumer goods, tobacco, pharmaceutical and cosmetic products.

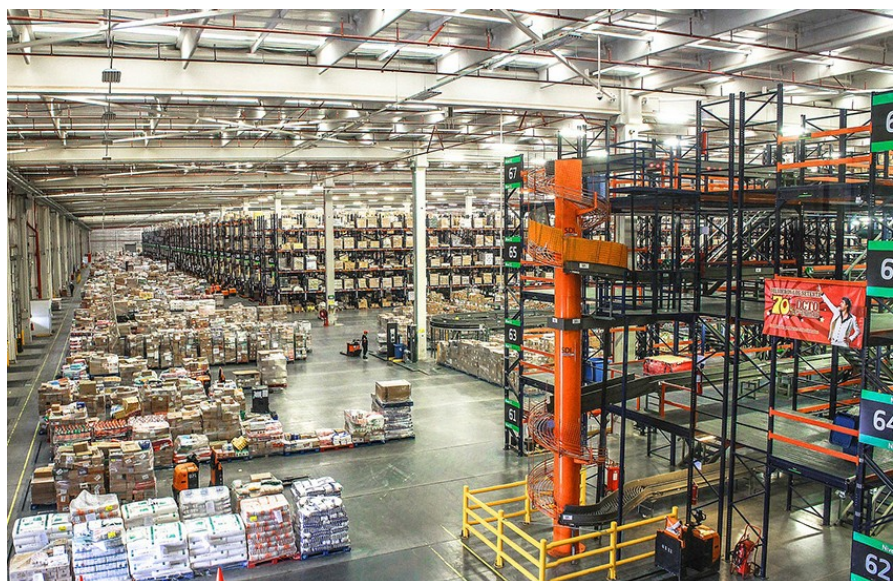
As an international group it hires 4,300 people in 18 companies, in 12 markets in Europe and Africa. Leadership position and successes achieved during 30 years of operation are a result of constant investment in the improvement of services, application of new technologies, investment in education and development of employees.

Nelt's business is based on the principles of ethical, responsible and sustainable growth and aims to contribute to the development of local and wider community.

For three decades, Nelt Group achieves business successes and growth of income, seeking to contribute to local communities and its markets.

In Serbia, the company seat and Central distribution-logistic center is in Dobanovci, on 60 ha space, in the heart of Belgrade industrial zone. Apart from Belgrade, distributive-logistic network is made of regional centers in Novi Sad, Niš, Kraljevo, branch in Subotica and cross docks in Valjevo, Vranje, Zrenjanin, Požarevac, Pančevo, Zaječar and Užice. As a part of its logistic capacities, Nelt offers services of international transport, storage, customs brokerage, delivery, additional packaging services, marking and packaging according to the client demands.

Intermodal container terminal stands out as a special segment of Nelt logistics, spreading over the surface of 30,000 m² of Nelt's central distributional-logistics center in Dobanovci. This first private intermodal terminal in Belgrade is recognized as a logistics hub of the Balkans thanks to its location, technical and technological advantages. Terminal is connected with ports of Rijeka, Bar and Piraeus with regular railway lines. Highways E-75 and E-70 connect 6 km away from the terminal, while the Nikola Tesla airport is 10 km away. Inside Nelt's logistic center is a functioning customs terminal with customs warehouse, providing full support and flexibility to different processes and commodity flows. With warehouses of different temperature regimes, on the surface of over 65,000 m², and delivery fleet with more than 250 vehicles – location of Nelt intermodal terminal is by itself an integrator of the regional supply chain.



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