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NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERMODAL TRANSPORT

Transmitted by Serbia

On the Pan-European Transport Corridor X (AGTC: C-E 70) a new rolling motorway (Ro-La) has been started between Wels and Halkali connecting over a distance of nearly 2000 km Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria and Turkey. The Ro-La trains are operated by 6 railway companies. The project has been launched by Austrian and Turkish partners. The wagons are owned by Ökombi.

The first pilot train left Wels on 16 September 2006. From Halkali the first train left on 21 September 2006. This Ro-La is unaccompanied, because the drivers take the plane from Istanbul to Vienna. It is planned to run during the pilot operations five trains in both directions (one per week). If customers from Turkey are satisfied with the service provided (in terms of transit time and costs) daily trains could be operated in both directions.

Last year, reconstruction of 6 tunnels and 19 bridges on the railway line Nis-Dimitrovgrad in Serbia has been completed and the line complies now with UIC C loading gauge. In spite of the very difficult geographical area, there are no longer any bottlenecks on this line for all type of intermodal transport units (ITUs). The railway line is not electrified and has double traction through Serbia.


