

State of Railway Reform in Croatia

Railway Working Group meeting, 14 of November 2012, Podgorica

In the last period Croatian railway sector is undergoing significant changes due to implementation of the Restructuring plan of Croatian Railways (HŽ), which started in March this year with aim of full liberalization of railway services in Croatia which will begin in July 2013, after Croatia become member of European Union. The most comprehensive restructuring plan for a state-owned enterprise in Croatia should be implemented fully by 2017, when the Croatian railway system which currently employs about 17000 people should eventually be downsized by 4,500 on condition that planned investments in and modernisation of the railway system is realised.

In the scope of Restructuring plan, on 1st October 2012 the traction company HŽ Vuča Vlakova d.o.o., with employees and vehicles (locomotives and EMU's), was divided between the freight transport company HŽ Cargo d.o.o. and the passenger transport company HŽ Putnički prijevoz d.o.o.

On 1st of November 2012 the railway holding company HŽ Holding d.o.o. was merged with the infrastructure manager, the company HŽ Infrastruktura d.o.o.. The shares of holding company in three railway companies HŽ Infrastruktura d.o.o., HŽ Cargo d.o.o. and HŽ Putnički prijevoz d.o.o. HŽ, were transferred to the Republic of Croatia.

On 1st October the bankruptcy proceedings for the rolling stock company TZV Gredelj had been launched. A part (about 500) from about total 1.500 employees was laid off and for the rest employment in railway sector is planned.