

 REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
 AIR, MARITIME AND RAILWAY TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION AGENCY
 



FOUNDATION OF THE AIA – NEW AGENCY

- Air, Maritime and Railway Traffic Accident Investigation Agency (AIA) is established by the **Act on the foundation of the AIA (Official Gazette no. 54/2013)** in July 2013, as a multi-modal agency.
- AIA is established **with former Aviation Accident Investigation Agency merged** - took over the jobs, employees and materials of the former Agency.
- Railway and Maritime Accident Investigation Departments were not established at that time.


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FOUNDATION OF THE AIA – NEW AGENCY

- **Director and Deputy Director** started to work as of 1st March 2014.
- **Railway Traffic Accident Investigation Department** has become operational during April 2014.
- **Railway Accidents Chief Investigator** is selected on public tender during September 2014.




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AIA INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

- Internal organization of AIA is determined by the AIA Statute



AIR, MARITIME AND RAILWAY TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION AGENCY

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD	AIR TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT
DIRECTOR OF THE AGENCY	MARITIME TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT
COMMON AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT	RAILWAY TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT


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AIA INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

- **The Administrative Board**
 - consists of three members
 - no executive powers
- **Director and Deputy Director**
 - responsible only for the **administrative and financial operations**, or **lead material and technical operations of the Agency**
 - their work is strictly separated from the professional work of the Agency.


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AIA INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

- **The Railway Traffic Accident Investigation Department**
 - performing **professional tasks**, especially autonomous and independent.
- Investigators have unlimited powers in:
 1. **conducting** traffic safety investigations,
 2. **the scope** of the investigation
 3. **the decision on the methods** that will be used in the investigation.
- Chief Investigator-head of the Department
 - responsible for **professional work of the Department**
 - empowered to **agree the final report on the investigation**.



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AIA BUDGET

- The funds required for the regular activities of the Agency are provided in **the state budget of the Republic of Croatia**.
- The budget is planned in a way that ensure **the independence of the Agency and regularly conducting safety investigations**.
- In a case of a major railway accident:
 - **Director** can approve funding up to 40.000 EUR
 - **Administrative Board** up to 135.000 EUR.
- All over this amount is approved by the **Government of Republic of Croatia**.



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QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- AIA has established and is working on full implementation of Quality Management System compliance with **the Standards ISO 9001:2008**.
- Quality Management System provides:
 - Increase the efficiency of the investigative teams at the Agency,
 - Reduce operating expenses that Agency has,
 - Create a better reputation and public perception of the Agency,
 - Recognition and technical excellence,
 - Greater public confidence and entities involved in air, maritime and railway traffic.
 - Better daily work and better motivation of employees, especially investigators,
 - Flexibility and readiness for rapid and effective changes
 - Consistent quality products, services and processes.



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NATIONAL DATABASE

- **National database - Croatian Railway Accidents and Incident Database**
- Stores data on railway serious accidents, accidents and incidents – **1000 events so far**.
- Purpose is to have detail view in Railway System in Republic of Croatia:
 - **number of serious accidents, accidents and incidents,**
 - **how RU and IM are implementing SMS regarding investigating and reporting.**
- AIA collects data for the National database from investigations reports made by AIA investigators, from information in RUs and IM investigating reports.



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EUROPEAN DATABASE – ERAIL

- **ERAIL – European Railway Accident Information Links**
- Online access to ERAIL database (<http://erail.era.europa.eu/>) for entering occurrence information (user account and credentials given by ERA)
- The ERAIL database shall ensure that **the information relevant to the safety of the railways in the Member States** is accessible and transparent to all interested parties and stakeholders in the railway.
- In the Railway Safety Directive 2004/49/EC and the Agency Regulation 881/2004, the Agency has been given the task of collecting and proving public access to:
 - **The investigation reports sent to the Agency** in accordance with Article 24 of the Railway Safety Directive
 - **A annual report on safety performance**, based on CSIs, national reports on safety and accidents and its own information



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EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF INVESTIGATORS

- Plan and training program for the Railway Traffic Accidents Investigation Department is **developed and documented** with a clear indication of:
 - the level of professional training,
 - the holder education,
 - scope and content of training,
 - goals and qualifications of investigators after completion of the training, or education.



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EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF INVESTIGATORS

- In accordance with the guidelines of the European Safety Agency and AIA Quality Manual concerning the training of investigators, training of investigators will be divided into several phases:
 - **Initial training**
 - **Basic training**
 - **Advanced training**
 - **Practical work and training of investigators (On-the-Job-training)**



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ROLE AND POSITION OF AIA WITHIN THE RAILWAY SECTOR IN CROATIA

- AIA is established as a **separate body** that is **functionally and organizationally independent** of all the bodies responsible for air, maritime and railway sector and of all companies and persons.
- AIA is carrying out safety investigations of:
 1. **s. accidents and accidents in railway transport**, as well as
 2. **the extraordinary events that are under certain circumstances could lead to serious accidents (incidents).**
- AIA does not conduct safety investigations of tram and cable cars accidents – only railway transport!



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ROLE AND POSITION OF AIA WITHIN THE RAILWAY SECTOR IN CROATIA

- The purpose of an investigation by the AIA is to **improve railway safety** by establishing, in so far as possible, **the cause or causes of an serious accident or incident** with a view to **making recommendations for the avoidance of accidents in the future.**
- It is not the purpose of the AIA to attribute blame or liability.
- Safety accident investigations are conducted **independently of any other investigations.**



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ROLE AND POSITION OF AIA WITHIN THE RAILWAY SECTOR IN CROATIA

- Parallel investigations by other public bodies eg. State Attorney Office, Police, etc, **do not have and can have an impact on conducting safety investigations or the result of those investigations conducted by the AIA.**
- The IM, RU, and NSA (ASŽ), along with other parties, who have in any way been associated with a railway accident or incident:
 - **Have been regularly informed** about the investigations and its progress,
 - can **give opinions** in connection with the investigation and the final report draft,
 - **addressees of safety recommendations.**



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ROLE AND POSITION OF AIA WITHIN THE RAILWAY SECTOR IN CROATIA

- AIA is **regularly notified by RU and IM** about serious accident and accident via phone and via e-mail, and about incidents via e-mail.
- AIA since April 2014 received 150 notifications.
- If AIA investigator decides to go on an accident site he **goes and works there with eventual help of technical personal of RUs and IM that is on the site.**
- **Safety investigation ends with a final report**



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ROLE AND POSITION OF AIA WITHIN THE RAILWAY SECTOR IN CROATIA

- Some of the final reports have **safety recommendations**, they are sent to the NSA (ASŽ) and other parties involved in event.
- **The draft results of the investigation have been send for comments** to IMs, RUs, the NSA, victims and their relatives, owners of damaged property, manufacturers, the emergency services involved and representatives of the staff or users.
- **Every objection on the draft have been analyzed**, and if it is supported by the facts that were not included in the draft have been included in the final report.
- **All Final reports are published** on AIA web page.



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INTERFACES WITH OTHER BODIES – CROATIAN RAILWAY SAFETY AGENCY

- AIA is separated and independent from National Safety Authority.
- The NSA (ASŽ) will be **the most common addressee of AIA safety recommendations**, as the NSA has:
 1. **All the necessary information** to check whether the safety recommendation might affect a wider range of RU's, IM's or other parties in the national railway sector;
 2. **The power to oversee** measures within the scope of its authority in the national railway sector;
 3. **The power to enforce** measures, if the actors don't react appropriately according to their responsibilities;
 4. **The power to withdraw** a safety authorization or a safety certificate as an ultimate measure;
 5. **The power to promote** and, where appropriate, **enforce and develop** the safety regulatory framework.



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INTERFACES WITH OTHER BODIES – CROATIAN RAILWAY SAFETY AGENCY

- The NSA (ASŽ) has to inform AIA about **implementation of safety recommendations** through collecting information from involved parties about implementation of recommendation.
- AIA has arranged with the NSA (ASŽ) that they send to the AIA **written report about implementation of recommendations**.



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COOPERATION WITH EUROPEAN SAFETY AGENCY

- AIA regularly cooperates with ERA:
 - Every open investigation has been entered in ERAIL,
 - AIA investigators participate in ERA workshops and meetings



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COOPERATION WITH GOVERNMENTAL BODIES IN CROATIA

- AIA drafted agreements with the Police and State Attorney Office, which contain detailed description of **mutual relationship during an safety investigation**, as well as **all the necessary provisions from the Directive 2004/49/EC of the European Parliament**.
- 1) **Agreement with the State Attorney Office**
Regulates:
- the access to the accident site,
 - preservation of evidence and the treatment at the scene,
 - the protection of the data collected during the conduct of safety investigations,
 - conditions and methods of exchange of classified information,
 - the position of Investigator Agency in judicial criminal proceedings, etc.



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COOPERATION WITH GOVERNMENTAL BODIES IN CROATIA

- 2) **Agreement with the Police**
Regulates:
- the access to the accident site,
 - preservation of evidence and procedure in place of accidents,
 - protection of data collected during the conduct of safety investigations,
 - conditions and methods of exchange of classified information,
 - the authority for investigating accidents and incidents.



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COOPERATION WITH OTHER EU INVESTIGATIVE BODIES

- AIA has concluded the **Cooperation agreement with the Transportation Safety Bureau of Hungary** which provides AIA a **sufficient number of experienced and skilled investigators** who can competently and well conduct an investigation of the accident, particularly in the case of major accidents and complicated security investigations.
- Also, with this agreement AIA ensured:
 - the **exchange of expertise and experience in investigating accidents**,
 - **reduce the costs of joint education and training**,
 - the **implementation of practical work and training of investigators** (on-the-job-training) and other issues of common interest investigative authorities of EU member states.
- AIA plans to conclude similar agreements with other investigative bodies in surrounding.



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AIA INTERNAL PROCEDURES AND PUBLISHED POLICIES FOR CARRYING OUT TASKS

- All of the AIA's internal procedures regarding carrying out professional tasks (investigations), have been detailed in **Operational manual**.
- OM has several different sections with **detailed descriptions of various procedures**, such as:
 - Incoming occurrence notifications
 - On call and mobilization
 - Decision to investigate
 - Site management
 - Evidence collection, management, testing and analysis
 - Interviewing
 - Conclusions
 - Safety recommendations
 - Drafting investigation reports
 - Reviews, finalization and publication of Investigation Report, etc.



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AIA INTERNAL PROCEDURES AND PUBLISHED POLICIES FOR CARRYING OUT TASKS

Review of the draft investigation report

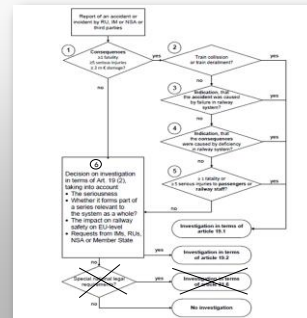
- When a final report draft is completed there are **internal and external reviews** of the draft investigation report prior to publication.
- These reviews are essential in:
 - ensuring that **the contents of the investigation report are correct**
 - keeps the relevant parties **informed of the AIA findings**.



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SAFETY INVESTIGATION FLOWCHART



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NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK REGARDING AIA

The AIA's investigations are carried out in accordance with:

- The Act on Safety and Interoperability of the Railway System** (Official Gazette no. 82/2013),
- The Act on the Establishing of the Air, Maritime and Railway Traffic Accident Investigation Agency** (Official Gazette no. 54/2013)

Act on Safety and Interoperability of the Railway System (Official Gazette no. 82/2013) is:

- transposing Directive 2004/49/EC of the European Parliament to the national legislation,
- in power as of the 1st July 2013,
- proclaims the activities of the AIA - a **functionally independent national investigation body, carrying out independent no blame accident investigation with the sole purpose of preventing the recurrence of accidents and otherwise improving railway safety.**



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NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK REGARDING AIA

- Investigations are classified as one of two types under the railway safety directive:
 - Article 19(1)** – investigations into **serious accidents** on the IM network, the objective of which is possible improvement of railway safety and the prevention of accidents;
 - Article 19(2)** – investigation into **accidents and incidents**, which under slightly different conditions might have led to serious accidents on the IM network;
- In Republic of Croatia there is no additional act that requires investigation in terms of **article 21(6)**.



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INVESTIGATIONS IN 2014 AND 2015

- AIA opened **16 investigations**, all under Article 19(2) of RSD
- 8 investigations were finished**,
- AIA issued **5 safety recommendations**



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Thank you for your attention!