



Press release

CHEB, 18 August 2020

Also the Line From Pilsen to Cheb Will Acquire the ETCS System

The pan-European Train Control System ETCS will ensure safe operation also on the arm of the 3rd transit railway corridor from Prague to the west of Bohemia. Správa železnic ceremoniously started today its installation on 107 kilometres long section from Pilsen to Cheb, which is also part of the Trans-European Transport 'Core' Network. The construction also includes building of new station interlocking equipment at the Cheb station. The investment action is based on the ERTMS/ETCS European Deployment Plan and the National Implementation Plan. The first construction work was started at the end of last year; it will be completed in August 2022.

The construction of the radio block centre (RBC) for the section between Pilsen and Cheb was the first to start last year. Balises will be installed in the tracks of individual railway stations and in all inter-station sections in January and February next year, prior to that, modifications will be made to the existing station interlocking equipment and line signalling system, which will ensure the transmission of data on the unoccupied sections, the condition of routes, level crossings and other information to the radio block centre.

In the 2nd phase, the existing relay interlocking equipment in Cheb will be replaced by electronic 3rd category equipment with control from a single service worksite with the possibility of control from the Traffic Control Centre in Prague. The necessary track modifications and partial reconstructions of the station interlocking equipment are already underway as part of the ongoing modernisation of the entire station.

The work at the Cheb station will also include modifications of the telecommunication equipment, the passenger radio and the information and camera system. Construction modifications are planned in the station building for the location of a new interlocking unit, the rooms for telecommunication equipment and the provision of space for its service, as well as a new arrangement of traffic control worksites.

ETCS is a standardised European train control system, which ensures the smooth operation of international railway traffic between the different national railway systems. At the same time, its installation increases the safety of railway transport. Currently, this system covers 255 kilometres of lines managed by Správa železnic. Another 206 kilometres between Břeclav and

Petrovice u Karviné have already entered trial operation, the sections Přerov – Česká Třebová and Český Brod – Praha-Běchovice – Praha-Uhřetěves will be added this year.

The contractor of the construction named ETCS Plzeň (excl.) – Cheb is the company AŽD Praha. From the EU's point of view, this action is part of the ETCS Beroun – Plzeň – Cheb project, which is co-financed by the EU under the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) programme in the amount of EUR 27,147,770. The estimated total cost of the ETCS Plzeň (excl.) – Cheb project amounts to CZK 1,013,534,696 excluding VAT, with the EU contribution of EUR 22,498,579, i.e. CZK 584,834,402. Funding from national sources is provided by Státní fond dopravní infrastruktury (State Fund for Transport Infrastructure).

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