

Press release

PRAGUE, 2 October 2020

**Správa železnic Headquarters – Architectural Design Competition**

Správa železnic has decided to create a modern and efficient environment for its Prague employees by centralizing it in one site. In connection with this intention, it is now announcing an international design competition for the design of a new headquarters, which should be located in the southern part of the Praha-Smíchov district, in an area closely adjacent to the existing dispatching building of the Praha-Smíchov railway station. In the future, other institutions operating within the Ministry of Transport should also be based in this site.

*“The aim of Správa železnic is not only to modernize the lines and improve the environment of station buildings for the public, but also to improve working conditions for our employees. That is why, together with the Czech Chamber of Architects, we have announced an international design competition that will move our dreams closer to reality. Together with the representatives of the Capital City of Prague and the City District of Prague 5, we have created such conditions that will be interesting for architects. Thanks to this, we expect them to design an adequate, modern and efficient space that will enable us to fulfil our mission, which is providing a safe, quality service for the public in the field of railway transport,”* said Jiří Svoboda, CEO of Správa železnic.

The announcement of the design competition in October this year will enable Správa železnic to select the best design by March next year and then sign a contract with its author. Then it will acquaint the general lay and professional public with the architectural designs.

*“Given the very good cooperation with the capital city and the city district, we assume that after obtaining the necessary permits we will start construction of the headquarters in 2024. Relocation of approximately 1,300 employees is planned for 2026. We assume total construction costs of CZK 2 billion,”* described Jiří Svoboda, adding*: “We are aware that in the Smíchov locality we will be part of a completely new city district in the future, which will change the whole city, and we are proud that the Správa železnic Headquarters will become the southern gateway to the capital city.”*