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Over Sixty Level Crossings Have Already Been Reconstructed This Year

Správa železnic is succeeding in implementing its plan to reconstruct 200 level crossings during this year. The railway infrastructure manager expects to invest almost CZK 2 billion in the modernisation of the railway infrastructure, which is largely connected with the increase of the safety level. In the first half of the year, reconstructions were completed at 65 level crossings. Construction work is currently underway on a further 67 level crossings.

Of more than sixty completed modifications of railway level crossings with other roads, almost half concerned crossings originally protected by warning crosses. Flash light crossing protection system has been newly installed at 19 such crossings. Another 10 crossings are equipped with barriers in addition to warning lights. Another 14 level crossings originally equipped with a flash light crossing protection system, have also been upgraded with barrier beams. Manually operated barriers have also reached the end of their service life at 9 locations in the country. They were mostly replaced by light-signalling devices, in 3 cases supplemented by barriers.

For example, instead of the original crossing safety installation from the 1970s, six level crossings in the section Ústí nad Labem-Střekov – Svádov, where collisions with persons or vehicles occurred in the past, mostly with tragic consequences, have received modern interlocking system. Four of these crossings were additionally equipped with barriers during the reconstruction. In two cases, modern composite barriers with LED warning lights were used. The warning crosses were replaced, for example, at a pair of level crossings on the line between Vraný nad Vltavou and Dobříš, with flash light crossing protection system, supplemented in one case by barriers.

The current modifications also address the increase in the level of safety mostly at level crossings originally with warning crosses and warning lights. In this way, Správa železnic contributes to higher safety of railway and road traffic. The modernisation of level crossings has also resulted in less number of accidents. Last year there were 143 collisions at level crossings, 22 fewer than in the previous year and the lowest number of incidents since Správa železnic was established in 2003.

At the same time, the pace of upgrading level crossings has accelerated. Správa železnic reconstructed a total of 155 level crossings for more than CZK 1.5 billion last year. This year, we expect to meet the announced number of 200 repaired or modernised level crossings.