

PRAGUE, 17 January 2023

Last year Správa železnic modernised the most level crossings in history

Increasing safety at level crossings is one of the priorities of Správa železnic. Last year was a record year in this respect; thanks to sufficient financial resources, 233 level crossings were reconstructed. The original plan envisaged the modification of 150 level crossings. In addition to the modernisation and addition of crossing safety installation, the cancellation of level crossings has also ensured greater traffic safety. This occurred at more than 100 locations.

"Strengthening safety at level crossings has positive impacts on both railway and road traffic. This is one of our top priorities and we do not intend to relent in the years to come. We are replacing warning crosses with flash light level crossing warning system, and installing barriers. Last year alone, we invested CZK 3.1 billion in level crossings and their safety, the most ever in history," says Jiří Svoboda, Director General of Správa železnic.

A total of 233 level crossings were reconstructed in 2022, while the plans envisaged that 150 level crossings would be reconstructed in the mentioned period. Správa železnic also focused on the cancellation of selected level crossings. In total, we succeeded at 102 locations last year. This is also a record number. Crossings are cancelled not only where the line crosses a forest road, but also in areas with high traffic intensity. In such cases, they are replaced by an overpass or underpass. A further reduction in the number of level crossings of around 5 per cent is envisaged by 2030.

Správa železnic will not relent in further increasing security of level crossings this year either. The modifications will be carried out at 130 locations; the total cost will exceed CZK 1.8 billion. As far as the construction of grade-separated crossings is concerned, a new overpass in Olomouc-Holice, which will replace the existing crossing on the corridor line, should start to be built this year.

Overview of level crossings as of 31 December 2022

Total number of crossings	7,646
Level crossings equipped with safety installation	4,269
- of which level crossings equipped with barriers	1,772
Level crossings protected by warning crosses	3,377