

Press Release

PRAGUE, 19 June 2019

Modernized Corridor Part from Praha-Uhřetěves to Votice Will Acquire ETCS Next Year Already

Introducing the unified European Train Control System (ETCS) on the Czech railway accelerates more and more. Next year already, it will be acquired by an important part of Czech Rail Transit Corridor IV. Today, Správa železniční dopravní cesty (SŽDC) festively launched the installation of a modern train control system in the line section Praha-Uhřetěves – Votice. The supplier of works is the company AŽD Praha.

"For several years, the maximum possible speed on our network, i.e. 160 kph, is in use on the corridor leading from Prague to South Bohemia. Next year, the ETCS system will contribute to even safer and smoother operation", says Mr. Mojmír Nejezchleb, Deputy Director General of SŽDC for Infrastructure Modernization.

Introducing the unified European Train Control System in this section will include – besides placing balises for information transfer – establishing fixed single-aspect reflective signals in the neighbourhood of the railway line and on current selected signal heads. Existing bodies of remotely controlled signalling equipment will be completed by new software which will add ETCS functionality as well.

ETCS technology will be integrated at individual workplaces of the so-called Unified Service Workplace (USW) without the necessity to introduce additional service components such as monitors, keyboards or mice.

Transfer of individual information to railway stations will be dealt with centrally by form of line signalling equipment. Remotely controlled signalling equipment technology will transfer the state of individual components to the Traffic Control Centre in Prague.

A service workplace for the ETCS traffic controller will be established in a separate room of the Traffic Control Centre in Prague. All interventions into the system - including administration ones which will be allowed only based on due authorization - will be carried out from this workplace. Separate operation data will be introduced into the ETCS system here as well. A touch terminal equipped for GSM-R network entry will be also situated here.

In connection with ETCS construction, a covering of branching-off lines by the GSM-R system for distances designed by the ETCS system from the branching to the main line will be assured.

The construction also includes adaptations of Říčany railway station. One switch point will be closed (it is currently safeguarded by an electromotive point machine) as well as a derailer controlled in the same way. Some signal heads will be closed too.

The project designated as ETCS Praha-Uhřetěves – Votice is co-financed by the EU Cohesion Fund under its Operational Programme Transport. Total planned project costs equal CZK 211,273,444 (VAT excluded). The maximum rate of EU support can amount up to CZK 137,930,503. National financing is assured by the State Fund for Transport Infrastructure. The construction should be completed at the end of next February.

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