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New Orientation System at Plzeň Main Station

As of 1 July 2019, Správa železniční dopravní cesty (SŽDC) changes the numbering of platforms and tracks at the Plzeň Main Station. Having undergone a major reconstruction in the previous years, the station will become one of the first on the SŽDC network where a new orientation and information system for passengers will be introduced.

The change in marking platforms and tracks corresponds to new SŽDC regulations for the placement and visual aspect of the orientation and information system's components. These are being gradually introduced at other reconstructed railway stations as well, e.g. in Beroun or Cheb and correspond to regulations known from most other countries in Europe.

A single number for marking each platform's edge where passenger trains stop will be used; in case of need they will be completed by the word "track". Each track will be marked by a number starting with 1 in direction from the main access to the station at Šumavská Street and ending with 12 in direction to another access from Železniční Street. This means that separate numbers for platforms 1 – 6 and additional track numbers based on service numbering which was not understandable enough for passengers will no longer be in use.

Current tracks No 8 and 6 which are situated at Platform No 1 will now become Tracks No 1 and 2; on the contrary, tracks No 101 and 103 at Platform No 6 will be numbered as 11 and 12.

Besides that, tracks are divided for passengers' better orientation into shorter parts (so-called sectors), marked at orientation tables from West to East by capital alphabet letters A - I. For all 12 tracks, sectors of the same letter are situated in the same position, so that tracks at shorter platforms 1 and 2 are divided into sectors B - H only. Marking of sectors where trains stop will be also gradually added to electronic information panels and radio announcements.

Up to the end of this year timetable's validity, the well-established terms *Western* part and *Eastern* part or their abbreviations Z (West) and V (East) will be used for marking parts of the tracks (due to technological regulations). Therefore, the train's position at the platform determined by the extent of sector letters will be shown at information tables only as of 15 December when the Z and V marking will be abolished.

During the first days of July, employees of the infrastructure manager SŽDC and the carrier České dráhy will be quite ready for assisting passengers to find their way within the station's premises.

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