

Press release

Start of the grain season – Rail Cargo Hungaria is ready for the export transports of the crop

Budapest, 2 July, 2019: With the start of the grain season on 1 July, at Rail Cargo Hungaria (RCH) everything is ready in order to successfully forward grain shipments to their destinations.

The market-leading company for grain transports on rail enhanced the service quality, optimised the vehicle fleet necessary for freight transport, increased the train parameters and utilized locomotives which don't need to be changed at border crossings. RCH and Rail Cargo Logistics - Hungaria (RCL - HU) optimise together the loading processes and the wagon turnaround time, hence improving the transports and the wagon capacity utilization. This season, the Hungarian subsidiaries of the group count with the export transport of approximately 825,000 tons of grain.

RCH's share in the Hungarian grain and oilseed export is 12%. It is a significant accomplishment, as only 20% of all export activities are handled on rail. Another 20% reaches their destination on barges and 60% on trucks.

During the planning phase of the transport capacities RCH considered the significant amount – almost 3 million tons – of grain in the silos as well. Due to the warehouse capacity, it is not urgent to transport last year's crop, but in case of advantageous market conditions, it can be conveyed as well. In order to fulfil the demands, the company is preparing with its own 750 wagons for grain transport and with a possible rental of 1500-2000 wagons from the vehicle fleet of the group.

The most important export destination – with an export ratio of more than one third – is Italy. The majority of the Italian pasta is produced by using domestic grain, the Barilla pasta in Hungary is also manufactured from Hungarian wheat. Regarding the export volume, the Italian market is followed by the Romanian, Austrian, German and Dutch.

The Hungarian traffic of the grain trains to the Italian destinations is organised by Rail Cargo Logistics - Hungaria: they order the loading areas, keep contact with the loading personnel and the consignors, inform the partners about the arrival and course of the trains. Compared to last year, in Italy RCH conveys the trains to the Hungarian border through faster connections. It also lowers the frequency of locomotive changes, utilizes more trains and shortens the wagon turnaround time on some routes by transports which don't require a locomotive change.

Regarding the loadings RCH coordinated with the Grain Association and introduced a new measure. Reacting to the client's demands the company will increase the capacity of the grain trains, meaning that this year – depending on the traction capacities – in general trains consisting of 25 wagons loaded with grain will be on the way.

More information:

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