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Topic:

Collective passenger transport

Archive

Description

Quality of rolling stock has been influenced by the public image of transport and the attractiveness of its offer. Polish railway stock does not enjoy a positive reputation. Due to finances, purchasing new rolling stock is not possible, therefore it was decided to make a thorough modernization.

Background & Objectives

The basic rolling stock of Szybka Kolej Miejska (Fast City Train) in Trojmiasto are EN57 and EN71, whose construction is based on guidelines from 50's of XX century. They were produced until 1993 and it is thought that it is the longest-term produced rail vehicle in the World. The vehicles offer poor standard for the passenger journey; they are noisy, have leaky windows and are called 'a loo' by passengers (due to a toilet smell throughout the whole train).

Implementation

The PKP Szybka Kolej Miejska Company, which is a property of Polskie Koleje Państwowe (Polish National Railways) and Pomorski Urząd Marszałkowski (Seaside Voivodeship Office) can't afford to purchase modern rolling stock. It was decided to make a modernization of present electric multiple units.

The upgrades include:

- Removal of opaque partition walls and replacement with glass walls, providing feeling of safety
- Compartment for bicycle transport
 - Loading platforms and modern toilets for disabled people
 - Comfortable armchairs
 - Audio-visual information
 - Monitoring
 - Soundproof vehicles

The novelty is using a chopper (impulsive starting) which enable to save an electric energy needed to train's ride.

The first step was the modernization of four electric multiple units. The value of this part of the project amounts to 18 632 450 PLN (about 4,910 000 EUR), including the support from European Communities 5 046 650 PLN (about 1,350 000 EUR) and from national budget 5 046 650 PLN (about 1,350 000 EUR).

Conclusions

The modernization enables significant improvement of journey conditions. PKP SKM Ltd. is going to continue vehicles' modernizations with support from European Union in future and buy new rolling stock. The pace of stock exchanging will be depend on the pace of enterprise's communalization.

More information available at <http://www.skm.pkp.pl/> (Polish only)

Keywords

planning - customer satisfaction

planning - safety / security

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