

Hamburg, 19 February 2021

Hamburger Hafen und Logistik AG

Rail subsidiary Metrans to expand network through investment in Hungary

- *Planned construction of a terminal in Zalaegerszeg*
- *Investment volume of over € 40 million*
- *HHLA Chairwoman Angela Titzrath: With its location at the heart of Europe, Hungary is of strategic importance for transport axes of the future*

The HHLA intermodal company Metrans is building another rail terminal in Hungary in order to expand its transport services along the Adriatic Corridor and towards Southern and South-Eastern Europe. A corresponding agreement has been signed between the subsidiary of Hamburger Hafen und Logistik AG (HHLA) and the Hungarian government. The hub terminal will be built in Zalaegerszeg, which is located on the transport axis to the Adriatic ports of Trieste, Koper and Rijeka.

Angela Titzrath, Chairwoman of HHLA's Executive Board, emphasises the strategic importance of the project to the logistics company: "We are investing in Hungary because we see significant potential there for the rail transportation of the future. The Adriatic Corridor is developing into an extremely important European transport axis. That is why we also recently acquired a port terminal in the Italian city of Trieste. And Hungary, with its location at the heart of Europe, is of key significance to the expansion of the Metrans network towards Southern and South-Eastern Europe as well. I would like to thank the Hungarian ministries and the relevant authorities in the region for the good cooperation."

Peter Kiss, Chairman of the Executive Board of the Metrans Group, has announced investments of over € 40 million to construct and equip the new terminal. "This major financial investment demonstrates how important Hungary is to the further development of Metrans. We want to grow in Hungary and with the Hungarian people. The planned terminal will help to give the country a further boost towards becoming one of the most efficient logistical hubs in Europe."

The foundations will be laid in autumn of this year after the necessary legal framework has been created. The first section of the facility shall go into operation as early as 2023. The total investment of over € 40 million includes a grant from Hungarian institutions amounting to approx. € 11 million. Metrans expects that approximately 120 new jobs will be created in Zalaegerszeg.

The volume of containers transported by rail in Hungary has grown steadily in recent years. Metrans has benefited from this, especially through the hub terminal in Budapest which opened in 2017. In the first year, approximately 250,000 standard containers (TEU) were handled at the facility, and this increased to 425,000 TEU in 2019. Despite the restrictions in place as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the number of containers handled in 2020 has remained stable overall.

Regular block trains operated by Metrans connect Hungary, via Budapest and the Slovakian city of Dunajska Streda, to the North Sea ports of Hamburg, Bremerhaven and Rotterdam as well as to Duisburg, and the Adriatic ports of Trieste and Koper. The entire European intermodal network of Metrans now comprises 17 of its own and other associated terminals. This network, and specifically the Budapest terminal, are also a key component in the New Silk Road.

High-resolution images are available for download on the HHLA website under 'Media': [click here for download.](#)



Image: Visualisation of the planned rail terminal in Zalaegerszeg

Further inquiries

Annette Krüger, Spokeswoman; Phone +49-(0)40-3088-3503

Hans-Jörg Heims, Head of Corporate Communications; Phone +49-(0)40-3088-3521

About HHLA

Hamburger Hafen und Logistik AG (HHLA) is one of Europe's leading logistics companies. With a tight network of seaport terminals in Hamburg, Odessa, Tallinn and Trieste, excellent hinterland connections and well-connected intermodal hubs in Central and Eastern Europe, HHLA represents a logistics and digital hub along the transport flows of the future. Its business model is based on innovative technologies and is committed to sustainability.

www.hhla.de/en