

PRAGUE, 28 December 2023

Czech trains circled globe more than four thousand times this year

The end of the year for many of us is associated with taking stock. This year was marked by big changes. On average, more than 1.1 million passengers passed through the stations every day and a total of 64 station buildings were undergoing renovation. Railwaymen repaired over 400 level crossings and about 50 more were removed to make traffic even safer.

The infrastructure of Správa železnic is used by almost 10 thousand trains per day. By November, passenger trains had travelled about 130 million train-kilometres, while freight trains had travelled over 32 million train-kilometres. If the tracks ran directly along the equator, trains of Czech carriers would circle the globe more than four thousand times.

It was also possible to modernise and repair the railway network. Správa železnic repaired a total of 542 km of lines to maintain the existing quality of the lines or modernised them to improve their parameters. These works concerned not only the tracks themselves, but also other infrastructure components such as overhead contact lines or telecommunication and signalling systems.

The budget also allowed the high pace of station building renovation to continue. In 2023, the reconstruction of a total of 37 properties was completed, 12 repairs continued and another 15 were started by Správa železnic this year. Not only large, listed buildings are getting a new coat, but also buildings at railway stations in smaller towns and cities. This year's passenger figures are not yet available. However, in 2022, based on data from carriers, more than 1.1 million passengers used Czech railway stations every day.

Správa železnic launched safety campaign 'We will miss you' this year, which among other things highlighted safe behaviour at level crossings. Even though the number of accidents can be reduced mainly by responsible behaviour of drivers at level crossings, funds were also directed to increase their safety. Approximately 400 level crossings throughout the Czech Republic were repaired or modernised. Another 50 to 60 should be completely cancelled by the end of the year.

Passengers are increasingly using assistance services at railway stations. We estimate that this year we will help around 19,000 people onto trains. Compared to 2022, this is an increase of almost a third. Employees assist passengers in finding their way at the station or boarding the train using a mobile platform. Assistance can be booked in advance at spravazeleznic.cz/cestujici/asistence.