

RAILWAY COMPETITIVENESS IN COMPARISON WITH ROAD TRANSPORT IN THE EXTERNAL COSTS ASPECT

Summary

The form and strength of transport environment influences are differ because of transport branches. In European Union countries the transportation system of clear advantages of road transport was formed. The participation of the road transport in the transportation market increased form 48% in 1970 to 73% in 1997, when, for comparison, participation of railway transport was decreased from 33% to 14%. It was estimated that till 2010 the participation of road transport will rise to 80%, but railway participation will still decreasing and drop to 10%.

Considering creation of balance transport system, increasing number of road transport carries occur anxiety. It is worth to say, that analogically to differ power of natural environment influences in all transport branches, the distribution of external costs

is also different. The highest participation in external cost has road transport and it equals 92,2%. That is the reason why unecological aspects of road transport are distinctly articulated, promoting ecological aspects of railway transport in two aspects:

- developing cooperation of railway and road transport in intermodal carries,
- improving conditions of changing carries from road to railway transport.

Therefore that is true suggestion, that the consequence of hard conditions of EU ecological politics and raising level of social ecological conscious may cause limitation of road transport on the European highways. Such situation should be a „green light” for railway transport especially as a competition advantages against road transport.

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