THE INCREASE OF THE RAILWAY POTENTIAL AS AN ACTION TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT

Summary

The harmonious development of the European Union requires a wide range of instruments promoting environmentally friendly means of transport, especially on long routes, in urbanized areas and busy connections. As it appears from the EU policy documents and the direction of action proposed by international organizations, sustainable transport development can be achieved by the increase in the share of railway haulage, a reasonable management of haulage demand, and the introduction of new technologies that would improve transport service. These types of programmes place high demands on railway: not only should it increase its haulage capacity but also improve its image.

The article presents the conditions and factors of the increase of the share of railway in the European transport market that foster the actions for the sustainable transport development, with the simultaneous improvement of the quality of the railway's transport offer due to the introduced innovations.