

Rapid development of non-stop combined transport trains between Sweden and the continent**Hector Rail and Van Dieren Maritime sign new agreement**

Hector Rail and Van Dieren Maritime have signed a new agreement. The original agreement covered non-stop daily runs between Norrköping and the Ruhr from the turn of the year. The new agreement includes runs between Västerås and the Ruhr. The service is planned to start in September 2008, initially two runs a week in each direction. This agreement is also 5-year. For the customers it will provide a new high quality rapid connection.

Van Dieren Maritime is rapidly expanding on the Scandinavia – Continent market. The combination of own non-stop trains and flexible car distribution has proven to be very successful. Quality, climate adaptation and cost-effectiveness (by avoiding the German HDV tax “Mauten”) are the success factors.

Hector Rails’ trains run from Sweden down to Germany using the same locomotive all the way. With no stops to change locomotives, the trains average 70 km/h without the risk of Autobahn traffic jams.

“We are pleased at the renewed confidence Van Dieren Maritime has shown in Hector Rail. We can now together develop the Sweden – Continent transport relationship,” says Mats Nyblom, MD of Hector Rail AB. Van Dieren Maritime’s concept is definitely future-oriented with the emphasis on high quality and environmental adaptation.

“We look forward to our first train in January together with Hector Rail and have already decided to go further with the partnership,” explains Johan Logtenberg, MD of Van Dieren Maritime.

Like all modern electric locomotives, these locomotives have electrical brakes which generate electricity that is fed back to the railway’s electrical system to be used by other railway vehicles. Rail transport using this type of locomotive is the most environmental type of land-based transport.

Hector Rail AB is a Swedish company with a business concept of providing the line haul of goods trains. We create value for our customers by focusing on their needs, our own expertise, investing in optimal resources within our business area and by having a clear role on the market. Industrial shippers, forwarders, intermodal operators and traditional railway companies are our most important customers. Hector Rail covers 7,000 train kilometres a day, the equivalent of 5% of the Swedish goods train market.

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