

BTS broadens its portfolio of services

BULK TRANSSHIPMENT SLOVAKIA, a.s. (BTS) has been operating in Čierna nad Tisou since 2008; today, the company is running state-of-the-art technologies at this location that enable direct and indirect transshipment of loose substrates and piecemeal goods at the eastern border of the European Union. It has recently extended its services in the intermodal transshipment segment.

Company's business

BTS aims to provide high-quality services using modern technological units. BTS's core business is providing comprehensive transshipment services for bulk substrates, piecemeal goods and now also intermodal units. It also operates in the rail freight sector. Our transshipment services are provided at the Čierna nad Tisou border crossing station, while our transport and forwarding services are undertaken through our subsidiaries Inter Cargo and LOKORAIL. With the assistance of its shareholders – BUDAMAR LOGISTICS, a.s., and Železničná spoločnosť Cargo Slovakia, a.s. (ZSSK CARGO), as well as with the assistance of financing banks, the company has invested more than EUR 48 million in modernising its transshipment capacities at Čierna nad Tisou and in developing rail freight services since its establishment.

Entering the intermodal transport market

Since the beginning of 2020, BTS has been operating the Dobrá combined transport terminal. The activities of the terminal are aimed at the transshipment of intermodal units entering the Schengen area at the point where the track gauges and the CIM and SMGS systems change. Within the terminal area of 100,735 m², there are broad and standard gauge tracks available with a total length of 4,806 meters. Transshipment operations are carried out by two gantry cranes with a lifting capacity of 50 tonnes, using the track-track, track-road vehicle and road vehicle-road vehicle system. The terminal is also equipped with a container loader with a load capacity of 45 tonnes. The current daily transshipment capacity of the terminal is 430 handling operations. The terminal offers the possibility of storing intermodal units under a customs procedure with a total capacity of 1,630 TEU. The terminal layout also enables implementing the ROLA system - i.e. the loading of trucks with trailers and semi-trailers on special low-floor freight wagons.

The responsibility for sales activities to ensure the services of the Dobrá combined transport terminal (TKD Dobrá) lies with the shareholders - BUDAMAR LOGISTICS and ZSSK CARGO.

Bulk substrate transshipment workplaces

The transshipment of loose substrates is carried out at the workplaces of the Transshipment Centre West (TC West) and the Transshipment Centre East (TC East). These workplaces allow both direct and indirect transshipment. The centres are designed to transship iron-ore substrates of homogenised powder ore, pellets and concentrate. Thanks to the built-in components and technical design for the ATEX environment, the TC East also allows transshipment of coal and coke. Direct transshipment is carried out by unloading broad-gauge wagons using a circular tipper, which results in the substrate being dumped through grates into hoppers. The substrate is further carried by a system of scrapers and conveyor belts to standard gauge wagons positioned on a static rail scale which provides official weighing. Transshipment by circular tippers significantly reduces damage to broad-gauge wagons and speeds up the transshipment process. The total annual transshipment capacity of both centres reaches 4.8 million tonnes in 24/7 operation.

Piecemeal goods transshipment workplaces

Since 2017, BTS has broadened its service portfolio to include transshipment of ingots of up to 35 tonnes, coils, sheets, timber and other piecemeal goods in Čierna nad Tisou at the East Ramp - Gantry Crane workplace. Transshipment is provided by a double-girder gantry crane with a main lift capacity of 50 tonnes and an ancillary lift capacity of 12.5 tonnes. The ancillary lift capacity and the crane design allow for goods to be unloaded on a side hardened panel area. The designed annual transshipment capacity is 1 million tonnes.

Storage capacities

At present, the priority is to provide for the possibility of temporary storage of goods arriving in the European Union from Russia and Ukraine. At its workplaces in Čierna nad Tisou, BTS has storage areas operated by its shareholder – BUDAMAR LOGISTIC, a.s., allowing the storage of goods under customs supervision with a total volume of 130 thousand tonnes. BTS is also looking for new possibilities of storage of goods and is preparing, in cooperation with ŽSR and ZSSK CARGO, investments in solutions to increase the storage capacity to 200 thousand tonnes of loose substrates.

Additional services

Thanks to two completely modernised defrosting halls, our company is able to provide its customers with year-round transshipment of loose substrates. Defrosting Halls II and III consist of two defrosting tunnels. Defrosting involves five remotely-controlled technological units which, combined with the hall heat insulation, ensure cost-efficient and environmentally-friendly operation. The four tunnels provide a combined defrosting capacity of up to 108 broad-gauge wagons. The defrosting capacity reaches 1.3 million tonnes of iron-ore substrate in 90 days. Another additional service is provided owing to our transshipment centres being equipped with a technology for humidification of transshipped substrates with a technical liquid preventing substrates from getting frozen after transshipment in the winter season. This technology allows dynamically responding to customer requirements depending on weather conditions existing along the transport routes. Ultimately, it can save the end user's costs in the subsequent handling of substrates.

Rail freight transport

BTS has been active in the rail freight sector since 2009. The company is a licensed rail transport operator. The company has been awarded Class A safety certification, which is valid across Europe, and also Class B safety certification, which is valid in Slovakia and the Czech Republic. We own a fleet of motive power units (MPUs) with independent and dependent (DC and AC) tractive power of the 131, 183, 240, 770 and 771 series, with the total number of 37 MPUs.

MPUs are equipped with GPS position monitoring systems. We have mobile service capacities that can be deployed as needed. We also provide advisory and consulting services concerning repairs to motive power units. We pursue transport and forwarding services mostly in Poland through our subsidiary company Inter Cargo. On the Czech and Slovak markets, we provide these services through our subsidiary LOKORAIL.

Employees

The most important part of our company are its employees, who contribute to its success through their responsible work and constructive approach. BTS currently has 98 employees. In addition to ensuring a stable employee base, one of our priorities includes creating adequate social and operational background for employees. In 2018, BTS reconstructed a sanitary-operational building near the TC West, and in 2019, it built facilities for employees of the detached workplace in Spišská Nová Ves. Currently, it is preparing investments to improve conditions at the TKD Dobrá workplace.

BULK TRANSSHIPMENT SLOVAKIA, a.s., with the support of its shareholders - BUDAMAR LOGISTICS, a.s., and Železničná spoločnosť Cargo Slovakia, a.s., continues to stabilise the goods flows in the east-west direction using the ŽSR infrastructure by extending the portfolio of transshipment services as well as addressing new customer requirements. The priorities of its development activities also include improving the environmental protection and creating a sound working environment for its employees. Entering the intermodal transport market, it has launched the third stage of modernisation of its transshipment capacities at Čierna nad Tisou, the purpose of which is to ensure the further development of the most technologically modern railway transshipment facility on the eastern border of the European Union.

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PONÚKANÉ SLUŽBY / OFFERED SERVICES

ŽELEZNIČNÁ PREPRAVA vnútroštátna, dovoz, vývoz, tranzit

CESTNÁ PREPRAVA všetky európske destinácie, špecializácia na destináciu Balkán

RIEČNA A NÁMORNÁ PREPRAVA napojenie na sieť riečnych a námorných prístavov

MULTIMODÁLNA PREPRAVA kombinácia rôznych druhov preprav

INTERMODÁLNA PREPRAVA využitie kapacít dostupných terminálov, pravidelné kontajnerové linky

DOPLŇUJÚCE SLUŽBY priama/nepriama prekládka, skladovanie, colno-deklaračné služby

RAILWAY TRANSPORT inland transport, import, export and transit

ROAD TRANSPORT all European destinations, specialisation on Balkan destinations

RIVER AND SEA TRANSPORT connection with network of river and sea ports

MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT combination of various kinds of transport

INTERMODAL TRANSPORT use of capacities of available terminals, regular container lines

ADDITIONAL SERVICES direct/indirect transhipment, storage, customs declaration services

PLNE PODPOROVANÉ / FULLY SUPPORTED BY

