



Autorità di Sistema Portuale
del Mare Adriatico Orientale
Porti di Trieste e Monfalcone

PRESS RELEASE

NEW INTERMODAL AXIS FROM CERVIGNANO TO THE BALTIC THE INTERMODAL TRAIN BETWEEN CERVIGNANO AND ROSTOCK (GERMANY) WAS INAUGURATED TODAY, WITH THREE WEEKLY PAIRS OF TRAINS

Trieste, 16 October 2018 – An intermodal axis linking Cervignano with the Baltic Sea is born. The new train service linking the Cervignano freight terminal with Rostock in Germany was inaugurated today. In addition to serving as a cargo storage area for the ports of Trieste, Monfalcone, and Nogaro, the Cervignano freight terminal thus also becomes a hub for continental freight traffic along the Adriatic-Baltic corridor.

The project was carried out by LKW Walter, an Austrian company active in the transport sector since 1924, which identified the Cervignano terminal as the ideal hub to link Italy's north-east with the German port of Rostock, the port of reference for freight traffic to Scandinavia and the Baltic countries.

“Cervignano once again has an intermodal train. This service is one of the key pieces in the new Eastern Adriatic Sea integrated system. We recently launched a shuttle service between Trieste and Cervignano. Now, two regional hubs – Cervignano and Villa Opicina - have become fully operational”, remarked Zeno D’Agostino, president of the Port System Authority of the Eastern Adriatic Sea, during the inauguration ceremony for the new train.

This is a “company train”, a service devoted exclusively to LKW Walter’s semi-trailers, with the assistance of Kombiverkehr such as Multimodal Transport Operator to organize the trains, and Francesco Parisi Casa di Spedizioni as the commercial promoter of the Cervignano freight terminal. Two rail companies, Mercitalia and Lokomotion, will be in charge of rail traction, respectively in the Italian portion and beyond the Italian border, while the rail cars will be made available by Deutsche Bahn.

With a distance of 1,300 km and a transit-time of about 22 hours, the service currently includes 3 weekly pairs of trains in both directions, with the aim of increasing frequency in the near future. The train - 550 meters in length with 32 semi-trailers, will make it possible to reduce road traffic by about 200 trucks a month, thus improving environmental sustainability. The service will be well-balanced both in terms of exports – with the final destination of the goods being Sweden and other Scandinavian countries – and imports to north-eastern Italy and Slovenia.

More generally, the new service is part of a broader effort to boost the network of rail links and regional logistics platforms that the Port Authority is implementing through its subsidiary Adriafer (which began as a port movement service company and became a railway company last year). An initial project on the Trieste, Campo Marzio, and Villa Opicina ports and transport to and from Slovakia, the Czech Republic, and Austria was launched in 2018, with 20 scheduled trains a week that are expected to increase in 2019. The second project concerns the link between the port of Trieste and the Cervignano freight handling station for transport through Tarvisio originating from or destined to Austria, Germany, and Hungary, with trial trains organized with Rail Cargo Austria. There are currently 4 weekly pairs of trains in circulation, which are expected to increase to 20 in 2019.