



Estonian Railways goes from No. 1 to No. 3 in the Baltics in a year

10.03.2008 Baltic Business News: Toomas Hõbemägi

While at the beginning of last year Estonian Railways was the largest rail freight carrier in the Baltics, it is now far behind Latvians and Lithuania.

For instance, both Latvian Railways and Lithuanian Railways carried as much rail freight in one month than Estonian Railways in two, reported Eesti Päevaleht Online.

Such collapse was caused by the decision of Russian Railways to boycott rail freight shipments from Russia to Estonia after the April riots in Tallinn and the removal of the Bronze Soldier monument by the Estonian government.

In January, Latvian Railways carried 5 mln tons of 37 pct more freight than a year ago while Lithuanian Railways carried 4.8 mln tons or 21 pct more.

In the first two months, rail freight carried in Estonia amounted to 5 mln tons which is 40 pct less than a year earlier. In February, 2.4 mln tons of rail freight was carried in Estonia which is also 40 pct less year on year.

Oil and oil products make up 71 pct of rail freight in Estonia and totaled 1.7 mln tons in the first two months, down 28 pct year o year.

The only good news is that Estonian Railways has been carrying more containers than last year. In February the company carried 2,102 TEUs of containers which is twice more than a year earlier. In two months the volume of container shipments is up 76 pct to 3,781 TEUs.

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