

DRAGON on the tracks

During a ceremony held at Warszawa Wschodnia railway station on June 9, 2016, Newag S.A. officially handed over to Freightliner PL the first out of five DRAGON locomotives.

These are cutting-edge, 6-axle electric locomotives equipped with an additional diesel engine for operations on non-electrified end lines and at sidings. These locomotives were fully designed and manufactured in Poland. The contract was signed in January 2015. The transaction is financed by ING Lease (Poland).

During the official ceremony, the first DRAGON locomotive was christened with the name of Ernest Malinowski - an outstanding Polish railway engineer and the constructor of the Central Trans-Andean Railway in Peru. Malinowski's achievements have proven that Poland can be the source of world-class technology. In this respect, DRAGON locomotives resemble Ernest Malinowski. They are the product of Polish engineering, which is characterised by the highest parameters of power, efficiency, ergonomics and reliability.

Konstantin Skorik, President of the Board, Freightliner PL:

Investing in modern rolling stock is the best way to uplift the image of railway services. From the very beginning of its operations, Freightliner has been implementing a strategy of maximum efficiency based on new and reliable locomotives and wagons. Our locomotives are on average eight years old. We believe that if you are not moving forward, you are going backwards. Therefore, we have decided to extend our fleet with DRAGONS – new, six-axle electric locomotives, which have an additional diesel engine. Manufacturing of rolling stock could become Polish speciality but only if Polish railway operators buy Polish rolling stock. This is why we are very proud that we have ordered locomotives designed and manufactured in Poland, creating specialist know-how and workplaces here.

Ewa Łuniewska, President of the Board, ING Lease (Poland):

I am happy that ING Lease has contributed to the development of the Polish railway market. ING has offered innovative products aiming at financing rolling stock for years. We have extensive experience in this area with locomotives, electric multiple units and wagons in our portfolio. We can finance innovative, unique projects, supporting transport development in Poland. We focus on building long-term relationships and provide financing adjusted to our clients' expectations. This transaction, contracted with our long-standing partners, Newag and Freightliner, perfectly fits into our strategy. I am convinced that we can count on years of further fruitful collaboration.

Józef Michalik, Deputy President of the Board, Newag S.A.:

I am very proud and honoured today to be able to officially hand over to the management of Freightliner PL the first out of three already delivered Dragon E6ACTd six-axle locomotives. We are convinced that their reliability and technical readiness (at 99.3 and 99.5 respectively) will significantly reduce spending on rolling stock reserve. The six-axle locomotive handed over today is the first of its kind electric locomotive manufactured in Poland equipped with the so-called Dual Power module enabling its operation on non-electrified sidings.