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Belarusian railways are the most effective, the most reliable and the most popular means of transport, which has the required infrastructure, sufficient carriage and traffic capacity reserves of railroad hauls and stations. The Belarusian Railway is a part of the international railroad network of the II and IX Pan – European transport corridors used for main freight transportations between countries of Europe and Asia.

The development of freight transportation for Belarusian Railway is predetermined by the following factors: 1) economically advantageous location, at the junction of 1435 mm and 1520 gage lines being a link between Europe and Asia; 2) considerable capacity; 3) efficient implementation of technical, commercial and border operations; 4) competitive rate management conditions and flexible rate management policy.

In order to ensure freight transportations, the Belarusian Railway has 228 stations that carry out freight handling operations, 6 companies involved in terminal freight handling, 50 freight terminals situated in regional centers and big cities of the republic and equipped with necessary mechanical aids and storage spaces, and about 90 freight offices, including 37 linear transport service centers, where more than 5.3 thousand persons are employed.

Terminal and warehouse infrastructure of the Belarusian Railway amounts to over 604 thousand square meters of storage spaces. Available unsheltered and sheltered warehouses

of temporary storage, customs warehouses offer a possibility to accumulate and store freight, and also to split or consolidate lots, carry out freight marking and package batching.

The Belarusian Railway has the necessary infrastructure for arrangement of the work of transshipment of freight from cars of 1520 mm gauge cars into 1435 mm gauge cars and back at terminal complexes situated at the Belarusian – Polish border. BTLC State Enterprise is able to implement multimodal transportation involving marine and automobile carriers, as well as to organize the handling of cargoes in all ports all over the world. Development of transportation by container trains is one of the top priorities of the enterprise. BTLC State Enterprise offers the delivery of goods, which require special transportation conditions. When organizing transportation takes into account all the nuances and this fact provides excellent result. Due to the powerful refrigerating equipment and reliable thermal insulation provides stable maintenance of goods temperature regime down to -20°C . BTLC provides refrigeration rolling stock for perishable goods at any distance. BTLC State Enterprise organizes the whole transportation process at the level of international standards, optimizing the time and cost of cargoes delivery to customers. BTLC State Enterprise provides own, attracted and leased rolling stock for cargo transportation. Thanks to the cooperation with the major operating companies, the enterprise performs the backhaul loading in the CIS and the Baltic States. The work of employees allows a more efficient use of rolling stock and reduce transportation costs for cargo owners. BTLC State Enterprise is hooking up of containers with Belarusian export cargoes at the stations of the Belarusian Railway by the appointment to China in route Europe-Chine. It is developed to create conditions and provide a comprehensive service for export of Belarusian companies' products to China by rail.

The structure of BTLC State Enterprise includes services of transportation and logistics outsourcing. A customer may use terminal services at freight stations of the Republic of Belarus. One of the most important terminals is Kolyadichy, where you can get: 1) loading and unloading operations with large-capacity containers and heavy cargoes (weight of one place up to 55 tons); 2) loading and unloading operations in covered wagons and vehicles; 3) loading and securing of automotive vehicles and oversized cargo; 4) organization of combined transport using own container truck park; 5) safe storage at warehouses and outdoor open container area, including customs control regime; 6) customs clearance of containers with cargo.

Terminal Stepyanka also has a key role in the logistics of Belarus and helps in: 1) loading and unloading operations with heavy cargoes; 2) unloading of bulk cargo and loading on trucks; 3) loading and unloading operations in covered wagons and vehicles; 4) organization of combined transport using own container truck park; 5) safe storage at warehouses and outdoor open container area, including customs control; 6) customs clearance of containers with cargo.

The Belarusian Railway plans to implement measures aimed at pursuing a flexible tariff policy to ensure the competitiveness of freight transportation by rail, improving the conditions for organizing international rail transport, further developing transit rail transport, developing and implementing new technologies related to accelerating the passage of container trains [1].

References:

1. Ministry of transport and communications of the Republic of Belarus [Electronic resource]. – Mode of access: <https://www.mintrans.gov.by/ru/>. – Date of access: 17.03.2021.