



FINAL PRESS RELEASE

*The 9th International Logistics Congress - Supply Chains in Science and Practice ended in Portorož, Slovenia, bringing together as many as 330 stakeholders, including representatives of logistics, transport, production, information and technological solutions, education and the Slovenian state. The Congress took place from 6 to 8 April and proved once again that such gatherings and exchanges of experience are extremely important for the comprehensive supply chain, which is further hampered by the turbulent times caused by the Covid-19 epidemic and the situation in Ukraine. The Congress, whose red thread is always digitalization, robotics and automation, placed the greatest emphasis on connecting all stakeholders in the process. At the event Slovenian professionals discussed construction of logistics centres in Slovenia, logistics in track and general technological modernization, this time with an emphasis on drones. As part of the Congress, the **Slovenian Logist of 2021** was also announced, and the **Lifetime Achievement Award** in the field of logistics was also awarded. The organizers are also announcing the  **jubilee 10th Congress, which will take place from 5 to 7 April 2023 in Portorož, Slovenia.***

#### »Logistics is the Backbone of the Economy«

Speakers at the opening ceremony include the **Minister of Infrastructure Mr Jernej Vrtovec**, **Mr Igor Žula**, **President of the Slovenian Logistics Association SLA**, **Mr Rok Svetek** on behalf of **SŽ-Tovorni promet**, **Mr Markus Mau** from the European Logistics Association and the German Logistics Association BVL and **Ms Danica Purg** from IEDC Business School Bled, emphasized the great importance of logistics for the national economy, connecting all stakeholders in the chain and organizing such live events.

In his introductory speech, Mr Igor Žula from SLA, the main Organizer of the Congress, focused on networking and cooperation in logistics. *»Today we are all talking about automation, digitalisation and robotics in the field of logistics, which is of course necessary, but cooperation, either horizontally or vertically is (still) a great opportunity to achieve better results in logistics. We still have a lot of opportunities here in Slovenia.«*

#### About Drones, Logistics Centers and Cooperation in Logistics

The event included **27 lectures**, **4 internationally awarded logistics projects** that have been introduced and already represent good practice, **15 examples of good practice**, **7 foreign lecturers** and experts and **22 domestic lecturers** and representatives of successful companies. Within **six panels**, the congress programme addressed the most current topics in the field of the use of drones in logistics, cooperation in the field of logistics, logistics on tracks and construction of logistics centers, and comprehensive transformations in logistics companies. The last day of the congress a **Research day** was also held, where the participants were able to learn more about the research and development achievements of Slovenian faculties.

Quite a few well-known companies presented themselves at the event, namely **Volvo Cars**, **Danfoss Trata**, **Iskraemeco**, **Interlog**, **Adria Kombi**, **SŽ Tovorni promet**, **DB Cargo**, **Go Asset**, **Pošta Slovenije** and others. In addition, quite a few examples of good practices in the construction of logistics centers

in Slovenia were presented - **logistics centre in Sežana - strategic investment in the region, renovation and expansion of logistics in Vigros company in Puconci**, establishment of **the largest logistics centre in Serbia, Logistics Center Brnik** and how **LIDL built one of the largest logistics facilities in Slovenia**.

### Logistician of the Year

Within the Logistics Congress, the **Logistician of the Year 2021** award was presented by the Slovenian Logistics Association and is awarded on the basis of six main criteria (organizational, technological, informational, economic, developmental and environmental excellence). The Logistician of the Year award **went to the President of the Management Board of Intereuropa d.d. Mr Marko Cegnar**, who was able to adapt his many years of experience very well to the requirements of the market, introduce them into business processes and thus achieve excellent results in an efficient and sustainable way.

### Recognition for Life Achievements in the Field of Logistics

**Recognition for life achievements in logistics** went to a retired but still very active logistician, **M.Sc. Milan Jelenc**. Mr Jelenc has more than forty years of experience in the logistics industry in the management, administration and supervision of companies in the field of transport, freight forwarding and logistics, including companies such as Slovenske železnice, Luka Koper, Intereuropa, BTC, etc. In his work in companies, he constantly strived to introduce modern logistics concepts at both the strategic and operational levels and to transform them into modern logistics companies. During his four-year term, he also worked in state bodies, as a member of the Executive Council of the Republic of Slovenia and President of the Republic Committee for Transport and Communications, where he worked, especially in infrastructure, which is a prerequisite for efficient logistics.

### Logistics Congress in Figures

That logistics can be the backbone of the economy is emphasized by the fact that connecting everyone in the chain is extremely important, which this Congress also succeeded in doing. This year's congress was attended by **330 listeners** from **139 different companies** from **9 countries**, mostly of course in the fields of logistics, industry and transport. The Congress was supported by **39 sponsors**, **5 media partners**, **3 congress partners** and **7 supporters**.

#### Congress participants came from the following industries:

- Logistics 30%
- Industry 13%
- Transport 11%
- IT 10%
- Technology 8%
- Education 7%
- Consulting 4%
- State 3%
- Trade 7%
- HR 1%
- Other 5%



## Jubilee 10th International Logistics Congress

The organizers of the largest logistics congress in the region are already announcing the **jubilee 10th International Logistics Congress**, which will take place **from 5 to 7 April 2023 in Portorož, Slovenia**.

**Organizer:** Slovenian Logistics Association

**Partners:** Association for Transport at GZS and ACS, Slovenian Automobile Cluster

**Project contractor:** Proevent d.o.o.

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