

Bulgaria Intermodal

Dear Minister Moskovski,

Dear Mr. Stoyanov – Deputy Mayor

Dear Mr. Petkov – Organizer of the event

Dear Messrs. Pimk that gave hospitality to this remarkable logistic event

Dear Members of the Media and Press,

Dear Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the National Bulgarian Freight Forwarding Association I would like to welcome everybody taking part into this logistic conference.

NSBS the Bulgarian Association for Freight Forwarding, Transport and Logistics was founded in 1992 to pursue the following principal goals:

1. Represent the Bulgarian freight forwarding industry, protect and promote its interests in Bulgaria and abroad;
2. Develop and improve the legislative basis of the freight forwarding business in Bulgaria
3. Enhance the image and the professional standards of the forwarding industry by:

- establishing criteria for access to the Forwarding profession;
- setting down standards for the quality of services performed by the Forwarding companies;
- adopting and monitoring a Code of Business Ethics in freight forwarding;
- conducting vocational training of freight forwarding personnel.

NSBS is reliable regional partner to FIATA – the world freight forwarding federation and Clecat – the European Association for freight forwarding, logistic and customs services as well as to the European Commission for enlarging the territory with clear rules and principles to promote freight forwarding activity.

Infrastructure is of major importance for any undertaking that persons, companies of states decide to develop. Therefore we NSBS welcome any action taken by any individual to build new, enlarge or improve existing transport and logistic infrastructure. As well as any support from the Government and local administrations for creating and developing logistic infrastructure.

Bulgaria joined EU in 2007. The big European Market was opened for our transport, freight forwarding and logistic companies. At first glance yes but getting deeper into the matter we realize that to serve the transportation between Western Europe(Germany, France, Italy and etc.) and Turkey and Western Europe and Russia for example we are required to have 3rd country permits. Why because road transports are still governed by the ancient system of bilateral agreements between the countries. We have raised the topic as high as possible via the structures of FIATA and CLECAT but the agreements between the separate countries are still in force.

Another considerable challenge to our transport and logistic sector is the minimum wage system

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that some of the West European countries jointly decided to apply.

Therefore we once more express our support to projects such as the Inter modal Terminal in Plovdiv that will open opportunities to Bulgarian logistic companies to make business and grow within Bulgaria.

Our sea ports and especially their container terminals have been outdated for long time. We truly hope developing the terminal in Plovdiv is a clear sign that the Administration has realized the vital need of logistic infrastructure not only for the freight forwarding and transport industry but for the whole economy of the country. It is clear that such infrastructure projects could work efficiently only in joined network. We herewith appreciate the decision of the Government, expressed by Mr. Moskovski to build a network of inter modal terminals. The ports of Varna and Burgas should be very soon modernized to enable sustained growth of the sector and support the growth of the Bulgarian Economy. So that most of the 57 000 TEU that were reported as capacity of Plovdiv terminal to enter and exit via Bulgarian ports.

We wish all participants successful conference and many new useful contacts.

Angel Safev

Chairman

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