

Press release

Almost one quarter more transported lorries than in 2020 – operative losses reduced by two thirds in the second year of the pandemic – 2022 tentatively off to a positive start

In particular, the new 2021-2023 Business Plan helped RAIpin manage the adversities presented by the pandemic in the previous year. Assumptions made about costs in the plan proved correct.

Almost 70,000 lorries (as opposed to just over 56,000 in the previous year) crossed Switzerland by rail instead of road thanks to the services of RAIpin, saving 23,500 tonnes of CO². Entrepreneurial action made it possible to achieve small successes in the second year of the pandemic. Due to construction work, trains of the Rolling Highway travelled for the first time via the Luino-Line, permitting RAIpin to run its service all year round, other than in 2020. In addition, starting from mid-October, lorry drivers were able to acquire EU COVID test certificates valid for 48 hours on demand from the test centres at the RAIpin terminals in Freiburg and Novara. This service was used by more than 30 percent of RAIpins customers and made a crucial contribution to the favourable result of the fourth quarter.

Another extraordinary contribution of CHF 2.8 million by the Swiss Confederation and the liquidation of CHF 2.1 million in provisions allowed the achievement of a break-even annual financial result in 2021. Due to the good development of market demands in the fourth quarter, RAIpin didn't have to claim CHF 0.5 million of the additional Federal assistance.

RAIpin got off to a tentatively positive start in the financial year 2022. Unfortunately, due to a COVID decree by the Italian government, no EU test certificates could be issued anymore at the terminals from January until March. As a result, 5,600 lorries could not be transported in an environmentally friendly manner by train in the first quarter of this year. Due to the lifting of the pandemic-related measures, the Rolling Highway has started generating positive monthly results again as of April and is able to provide its customers with the full required train capacities.

The optimised timetable introduced in 2021, with continuous locomotive traction for the entirety of the journey, has enabled RAIpin to achieve good punctuality: Over 78 percent of trains reached their destination with under 60 minutes' delay, which is by no means a given in the context of the international heavy goods traffic sector.

Further information can be found in our 2021 annual report at <https://www.ralpin.com/gb2021> (available in German only).

Olten, 4 July 2022

RAIpin Ltd at a glance

Headquartered in Olten, RAIpin AG operates the Rolling Highway (Rola) between Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany, and Novara, Italy. Its service encompasses over 100,000 opportunities for lorries to transfer from road to rail each year. Drivers embark their vehicles onto low-floor waggons at the terminals and accompany their loads safely in a sleeping car. RAIpin's Rolling Highway service makes a significant contribution to the modal shifting of traffic from road to rail and to safeguarding the sensitive Alpine region.

The shareholders of RAIpin are BLS AG, Hupac SA and SBB AG.

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