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Daily magazine about Latvia



I owe my success to having listened respectfully to the very best advice, and then going away and doing the exact opposite.

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# BATL: transit industry's potential is enormous, but not used to its fullest



Inga Antane/youtube.com

Baltic Association – Transport and Logistics is satisfied that real and constructive work has commenced in cooperation with LDz Logistics and Transport and Communications Institute on Latvia's transport and logistics, including the development of a strategy for the transit industry.

At the seminar organized by LDz Logistics and Transport and Communications Institute, businessmen working in Latvia transit sector and keepers of the country's infrastructure began work on the industry's future development and creation of a unified transit corridor offer. During the seminar, businessmen exchanged practical solutions for the creation of a unified corridor, thereby making a step forward for the improvement of the country's international competitiveness, as reported by BATL.

BATL president Inga Antane emphasizes that the majority of businessmen agree that the situation in the industry under influence from geopolitical and structural challenges has changes dramatically in the past couple of years. She adds that it is necessary to form a new vision and a better offer for external markets. «The industry's potential is enormous, but it is not used fully, unfortunately. Because of that, it is highly important to continue work for the creation of a single vision for the future of the industry in new global conditions,» – said Antane.

Transports and logistics play a significant role for Latvia's GDP and employment. This is why development of a national-level industry strategy is vital for the industry itself and the national economy. In a situation when global cargo transport routes experience significant changes, development of a single offer to ensure Latvia's inclusion in global trade routes and connectivity with the world's largest economies becomes twice as important.

LDz Logistics chairman Verners Lusis comments: «After listening to opinions from dozens of industry representatives, we now know of the steps we have to take and cooperation to cultivate and new markets to explore – China and Central Asia. Exchange of ideas has also provided us with confidence that cooperation with Chinese, Russia, Belarusian and Kazakh partners is the right way to go. Maintaining

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# Entertaiment & Arts



Film industry hands out annual awards

During the Lielais Kristaps film festival's award ceremony on October 12, director Renars Vimba's feature film Mellow Mud and Vitaly Mansky's Under the Sun carried off the main awards, LSM reported.

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successful cooperation with the industry and creating participation for all interested market players is what is important to most at the moment. I believe this discussion means a turning point for activities that have been mostly dominated by internal competition until now. We now have a general understanding about the scope of competition and that our ability to cooperate effectively depends on Latvia's success in this competition.»

Raimonds Krievins, head of TransContainer office in Latvia, emphasized that it is highly important to develop stable and regularly functioning transit corridors managed by a single coordinator working with all market participants and relevant state institutions. As an example for short-term but successful transit corridor, Krievins mentioned Afghanistan's cargo flow. The state was interested in its organization. State institutions and LDz have created conditions for better accessibility of the Latvian-Chinese transit corridor. Nevertheless, businessmen should be more active with appropriate, effective and high added value offer services.

«I am glad LDz Logistics and Transport and Communications Institute's organized work seminar has helped make important steps towards the development of a single transport and logistics corridor in Latvia and an appropriate industry strategy. The situation in the industry has changed significantly under geopolitical and structural challenges. There is a need for new offers for external markets. The first step has been taken. Now we need to continue moving in the right direction,» - Antane said.

#### **BNN**

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