

NÁRODNÁ DIAĽNIČNÁ SPOLOČNOSŤ

Diaľnica D1 Lietavská Lúčka - Višňové - Dubná Skala



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100 metres of the Višňové tunnel has been bored

The first 100 meters of the longest Slovak Tunnel Višňové has been bored ahead of time by the Salini Impregilo-Dúha joint venture

Višňové 25th June 2015 – The Salini Impregilo-Dúha joint venture has announced they succeeded in boring the first 100 meters of the tunnel from both sides: *“Compared to the planned schedule, we have achieved the first contractual milestone a week earlier, by completing the first 100 meters on 19th June instead of 28th June”* said Claudio Lautizi, General Manager CEO of the Salini Impregilo-Dúha joint venture.

According to the Contract with the National Motorway Company the contractor is obliged to complete boring of both tunnel tubes in the next 30 months. *“Overall the tunnel will have three tubes, one of which already exists,”* said Miroslav Remeta, the owner of Dúha, a. s. Presently boring is going on in three out of four bore faces (front part of the tunnel).

Višňové tunnel with a total length of over 7.5 km will be the longest tunnel in Slovakia and is a part of the 13.43 km section of the D1 motorway Lietavská Lúčka – Višňové - Dubná Skala, which is being built by the joint venture led by Salini Impregilo. The construction period is set to 66 months, i.e. 5.5 years after the work was commenced (17th June 2014). Presently, all major works are on schedule **and construction is expected to be completed by the end of 2019.**

The speed limit in the tunnel will be **100 km/h**. The maximum slope of the tunnel will be 2.9%. **From its highest point** to its eastern portal the tunnel **descends 154 m in total**. The exploratory bore situated in the centre between the two tunnel tubes will be maintained for rock mass drainage purposes.

According to the Ľubomír Palčák from the Transport Research Institute, JSC in Žilina the route from Žilina to Martin will be shortened by about 15 minutes and drivers will avoid traffic jams under the castle of Strečno thanks to the Višňové tunnel and the section of the D1 motorway Lietavská Lúčka – Višňové - Dubná Skala. *“The accident rate on the route between Žilina and Martin will be significantly reduced after the tunnel and motorway will be completed”* said Ľ. Palčák.

The project is funded by the European Union and the state budget. The value of the contract is 409.8 million euros. The owner is the National Motorway Company and the contractor is Salini Impregilo – Dúha joint venture.

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DÚHA a.s. was established in 1989. In 1995 DÚHA started to establish joint ventures with investors to develop and operate environmental plants and acquired ownership of the investment projects. Today the company is one of the largest construction companies in Slovakia. Presently they implement major construction projects, such as the reconstruction of tram tracks in Košice as part of in the Integrated Rail Transport project, the reconstruction, extension and addition to the Children's Faculty Hospital in Košice, construction of the Ovčiarsko tunnel as part of D1 motorway section of Hričovské podhradie – Lietavská Lúčka, reconstruction of a number of fire stations, construction of the public sewer and waste water treatment plant in Spišské Podhradie, construction of the D1 motorway section of Lietavská Lúčka - Višňové - Dubná Skala, and other major projects.

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