

Press release

Change of Chairman at RAlpin

Following twelve years of growth and personnel continuity, RAlpin has announced a change of Chairman. Mathias Tromp is stepping down as Chairman of the company's Board of Directors, to be succeeded by Erwin Rutishauser.

Mathias Tromp, who holds a doctorate in Political Science, has held the position of Chairman since the company's founding in 2001. He has announced his intention to relinquish his responsibilities at today's General Meeting. As Chairman, he has successfully steered the fortunes of RAlpin from the outset. Previously, as the Director of the BLS, he was an advocate of the rolling highway concept even before the founding of RAlpin in 2001 and oversaw the upgrading of the Lötschberg route as a truck-on-train corridor, which, for the first time, allowed the transportation of heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) with a corner height of four metres through Switzerland. The Board of Directors and Managing Director thank Mathias Tromp for his immense contribution to RAlpin.

Under the leadership of Mathias Tromp, the rolling highway has established itself as a complementary product to Switzerland's policy of shifting traffic away from the road and onto rail. While the rolling highway carried some 45,000 HGVs in its first year of trading, the numbers grew steadily in the ensuing years. The rolling highway today carries around 100,000 HGVs a year, thus making an important contribution to the modal shift.

Erwin Rutishauser, an independent expert in the sector with a background in Business Administration, is assuming the chairmanship of the Board of Directors of RAlpin. Now a freelance management consultant, his long-standing experience as, for instance, Director of the Rhaetian Railway, Regional Director with the Swiss Federal Railways (SBB) and Head of the Facilities Management business unit of the SBB's Infrastructure Division, not to mention his network of contacts in the industry, are certain to help drive the company forward.

This is a good moment for a change at the helm, following as it does the signing of the new 2012 – 2018 agreement with the Federal Transport Office and the introduction / implementation of the initial measures. Last year, for instance, saw the inauguration in Wangen/Olten of the strategically important workshop for the maintenance of wheelsets. Thanks to the substantially improved availability of wheelsets, trains on the Lötschberg-Simplon axis have on average been able to consist of 21 low-floor wagons or spaces. This is the current maximum technical length limit.

Natural events including the rock falls in the Gotthard and infrastructure bottlenecks in the Simplon proved something of a challenge in 2012. Traffic was down around 8% compared

with the previous year, which had a negative impact on the financial results. Nevertheless, RAlpin still managed to run just under 5500 trains in 2012: by carrying more than 95,000 HGVs, it made an important contribution to Switzerland's policy of shifting traffic away from the road and onto rail.

RAlpin made a good start to 2013. The first five months of the year have seen consignments at least 12% higher than the same time last year. The fact that the trains are experiencing an average payload of 86% highlights the demand for rolling highway transportation for transalpine heavy goods traffic through Switzerland.

Olten, 14 June 2013

RAlpin AG at a glance

Headquartered in Olten, RAlpin AG operates the rolling highway between Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany, and Novara, Italy, and between Basel and Lugano. Every year, the company shifts around 100,000 heavy goods vehicles from road to rail. Under the rolling highway system, drivers drive their vehicles onto low-floor wagons at the terminals and accompany their loads in a passenger coach. This service, which exists alongside the unaccompanied combined transport business, sees RAlpin making a significant contribution to safeguarding the sensitive Alpine region and ensuring the viability of Switzerland's Alpine Initiative. The shareholders of RAlpin are BLS AG, Hupac SA, SBB Cargo AG and Trenitalia SpA.

www.ralpin.com

Contact:

René Dancet
Managing Director, RAlpin AG
rene.dancet@ralpin.com
058 822 88 88