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# Costs & Price Calculation in Rail Transport

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### **Rail Sector Cost and Revenue Structure**



**Freight** business is "**cash cow**" whereas passenger is unprofitable and infrastructure is cost centre only.



### **Rail Sector Cost and Revenue Structure**



Freight profit needs to contribute to infrastructure and passenger "loss".



### **Rail Sector Main KPI**



Infrastructure KPI:

\$ / track-km
\$ / train-km
\$ / (t+p/km)



Freight KPI:

\$ / ton or TEU \$ / train-km \$ / tkm



Passenger KPI:

\$ / seat-km \$ / train-km \$ / pkm



### **Rail Sector Costs**



### Infrastructure Cost Driver:

- Maintenance costs / track-km
- tons / track-km
- CAPEX Renewal requirements
- Electrification, CCS\*, tunnels/ bridges, stations



Freight Cost Driver:

- Traction / km
- Energy / km
- Asset utilization
- Slot quality
- Asset reliability & availability
- Staff cost



### Passenger Cost driver:

- Traction / km
- Energy / km
- Asset utilization
- Slot quality
- Asset reliability & availability
- Staff cost

\*CCS: Command, Control and Signalling Systems

### **Rail Sector Costs**



Infrastructure Costs:

\$ / track-km p.a. = 30.000 - 90.000

\$ / train-km = 10-15



Freight Train Costs:

\$ / train-km = 15 – 30

Passenger Train Costs:

\$ / train-km = 10 – 25

### **Infrastructure Costs**



Rail infrastructure costs can be divided in several blocks



\* Structures: Electrification, CCS, Bridges, Tunnels, Stations \*\* Time tabling, capacity allocation and dispatching



### **Rail Infrastructure Cost Shares**





\* New Construction, Modernization, Renewal, Upgrade

### **Rail Infrastructure Maintenance Costs**





### **Rail Infrastructure Maintenance Costs**

Maintenance/Repair	Traffic	Maintenance Intervals
Tamping	40 - 70 Mio. tons	3 - 5 years
Track grinding	20 - 30 Mio. tons	1 - 3 years
Track renewal	300 - 1000 Mio. tons	10 - 15 years
Renewal of wooden sleeper	250 - 600 Mio. tons	20 - 30 years
Renewal of concrete sleeper	350 - 700 Mio. tons	30 - 40 years
Fixings	100 - 500 Mio. tons	10 - 30 years
Ballast renewal	200 - 500 Mio. tons	20 - 30 years
Substructure renewal	> 500 Mio. tons	> 40 years





## Rail Infrastructure Maintenance Equipment Costs Example: Tamping

Capital expenditure	<b>new</b> (costs in \$/km)	old (costs in \$/km)
Depreciation	114,26	-
Financing cost	51,42	-
Overhaul	7,62	37,55
Repayment	-	-
Total CAPEX	173,30	37,55
Operating expenditure		
Maintenance cost	85,70	422,47
Personnel cost	240,64	790,86
Energy cost	29,07	63,00
Total operating costs	355,41	1.276,33
Total costs per km	528,71	1.313,88







### **Rail Infrastructure Maintenance Equipment Costs**





- Modern tamping machines can tamp up to 4-5 km per day
- The higher the machine utilization, the lower the cost per km

Machine	km performed	No of days worked	km per working day	Share of working days
CSM 3006	163,5	170	0,96	77%
CSM 3506				0%
CSM 6486	213,45	195	1,09	89%
CSM 6782	379,9	288	1,32	131%

### 2019 situation

	Preventive Tamping	BaU Tamping	
Total tamping	770	252	km/a
Costs per km per year	1.254	3.614	AZN/km
Total costs per year	965.580	910.728	AZN



## **The Infrastructure Cost Situation - Example**



### Spent today

USD p.a.	Total cost p.a.	Costs per Train-km	Costs share
Maintenance costs lines	4.606.561	0,56	11%
(Maintenance costs catenary)	0	0,00	0%
Depreciation lines	13.692.629	1,67	32%
Personnel costs	10.401.104	1,27	25%
Energy costs	506.973	0,06	1%
Administration costs	9.090.909	1,11	22%
Overhead headquarters &			
security	3.965.604	0,48	9%

#### **Incl. Maintenance needs**

Total cost p.a.	Costs per Train-km	Costs share
34.090.909	4,15	36%
18.181.818	2,21	19%
13.692.629	1,67	14%
10.401.104	1,27	11%
506.973	0,06	1%
11.363.636	1,38	12%
5.000.000	0,83	7%
209.035.901	11,57	100%

Total costs	92.980.316	5,15	100%



Result	-92.980.316

Train-km p.a.	18.068.720
Costs per train-km	4,66
Line km	2.068,00
electrified line km	1.233,00
Costs per line km	30.394,84



-209.035.901

18.068.720
10,74
2.068
1.233
86.514,56

### **Freight Costs: Track Access Charges**

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Marginal costs Costs directly caused by the operation of each train

Full costs Additional levies to cover all infrastructure costs, only to the extent which the market can bear

**Other elements** 

E.g. incentive schemes for trouble-free operations or environmental protection

+

**Track Access Charges** 



Freight is unlikely to cover full infrastructure costs!

### **Freight Costs**





### **Freight Costs: Allocation of Fix Costs**



#### Knowing the full asset cost is the key!

#### **Example: Locomotive**



#### Purchase price: 5.000.000 \$

Costs p.a.:Depreciation (25 y):Financing (5%):Overhaul (700k after 10 y):

Maintenance (4%): Annual costs: Per month: **Per day:**  200.000 \$ 250.000 \$ 70.000 \$ 520.000 \$ 200.000 \$ 720.000 \$ 60.000 \$

2.000 \$

Performance of locomotive:

8 \$ / km
4 \$ / km
2 \$ / km

Performance depends on:

- Slot quality / avrg. Speed (Infrastructure)
- Maintenance time / availability of locomotive (Workshops)
- Loading / unloading facilities (turnaround-time) (Terminals)



### **Freight Costs: Energy Consumption**



Energy costs are one of the main variable costs factors. Influencing factors are:

- Diesel or Electric Energy makes a big investment difference
- Profile of the line / track quality
- Driver skills
- Slot quality / number of stops
- Weight of train



Source: Perez-Martinez; 2012, Journal of int Transportations systems

### **The Distribution of Cost Factors**

Depending on the type of rail service offered, the share of cost types is different



Numbers from BAG-SPNV (German regional transport association)



Numbers from an exemplarily rail freight transport case

#### Cost factors in freight transport

## **The Calculation of Costs**

Three cost allocations need to be done

Infrastructure department	Freight department	passenger department	
<ul> <li>Track maintenance</li> <li>Station maintenance</li> <li>Bridges and civil works</li> <li>Signalling</li> <li>Capacity management</li> <li>Etc.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Locomotives</li> <li>Freight wagons</li> <li>Drivers, engineers, staff</li> <li>TAC</li> <li>Energy</li> <li>Etc.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Locomotives or EMU</li> <li>Passenger wagons</li> <li>Drivers, conductors, staff</li> <li>TAC</li> <li>Energy</li> <li>Etc.</li> </ul>	costs
<ul><li>TAC</li><li>(Subsidies)</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Freight revenues</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Ticket revenues</li><li>(PSO revenues)</li></ul>	revenues

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### The 'KPI Cockpit'



Measure and observe their development!



### **The Calculation of Costs**



#### 17 trips



### 11 trips

Mo Railistics Wiesbaden Bw: Est:						UU	Umlaufplan Umlaufplan Baku-Sumgayit																			
0	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	1	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1																	600	77								1
So 3 Sum									600 Sum 1	8 60 BAKU	005 60 Sum 1	14 BAKU	_				BAKU	60 Sum	16 BAI	6011 KU Su	8020 8 n BAK	5019 U Sum				Di 1 Sum
320,0 km									0 4	2 55	40 50	32					0	40 55	37	5 45	50 32 4	0 20				320,0 km
2																				60	13					2
So 1 Sum								60 Sum	02 600 BAKU	1 60 Sum 1	10 BAKU									BANU	Sum					Di 2 Sum
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3																					015					3
So 2 Sum								Su	6004 m BAKU											BAKU	60 Sum	BAK	8021 J Sum			Di 3 Sum
160,0 km									\$0 12											4	5 25 30	12 3	50 10			160,0 km
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So 4 Sum								1	Sum B	Su	6012 m BAKI								BAKU	6014 Sum B	6017 AKU Si	um				Di 4 Sum
240,0 km									45 27	30 10	17 59								30	10 18	0 10 50	0				240,0 km

### 17 trips



### **The Calculation of Costs**



### 11 trips

### 17 trips

USD p.a.	. Total cost 11 trips p.d.	Costs per Train- km	Costs share	Total costs 17 trips p.d.	Costs per train- km (optimized)	Costs share optimized
Depreciation rolling stock	1.834.848	6,25	65%	1.834.848	3,70	61%
Interest Rolling Stock	0	0,00	0%	0	0,00	0%
Maintenance costs	108.098	0,37	4%	182.765	0,37	6%
Personnel costs	54.218	0,18	2%	59.640	0,12	2%
Energy costs	86.520	0,29	3%	146.283	0,29	5%
Cleaning costs	43.440	0,15	2%	57.483	0,12	2%
Marketing/Sales costs	159.534	0,54	6%	171.076	0,34	6%
Administrative costs	342.999	1,17	12%	367.814	0,74	12%
Overhead headquarters & security	182.231	0,62	6%	200.000	0,68	7%
						1
Total costs	2.811.889	9,58		3.019.911	6,36	
_			1			
Revenue	438.893	1,5		548.616	1,1	215
Result	-2.372.997	-7,5		-2.271.295	-4,58	had

## **The Calculation of KPI**



Train-km p.a.	293.600
Nu. of op. staff (driver and	
conductors)	20
Roundtrips per year	3.670
Operating hours p.a.	4.893
Personnel hours p.a.	32.296
Seat km available per year	117.440.000
passenger km per year	34.899.920
Number of EMU	5
No of roundtrips	10
No of conductors per train	4
No of passengers	1.163.331
Manat per trip	1
Manat per year	965.564
Average travel distance (km)	30
Capacity utilization	30%

17 trips
496.400
00

KPI	
train km Costs in Manat	8,96
Km per EMU Unit	58720
Costs per seat km (Manat)	0,0224
revenue per passenger km	0,0126
Costs per operating hour	537,40
Costs for staff per train/km	0,18
Average passenger per train	317

Costs per passenger	2,42
revenues per passenger	0,38

5,68
99280
0,0142
0,0126
340,84
0,12
234

2,08	
0,38	



Revenue management can maximise the earnings

In the ideal situation:

#### price = willingness to pay (WTP)

In a monopoly situation the RU can achieve the full producer surplus

WTP is low for products in hard price competition (e.g. products suitable for trucking)

WTP is high if rail is without any alternative (e.g. heavy mass goods)

WTP is low for new clients

WTP is high for additional services

Example for setting prices according to costs and WTP of clients



Example for gaining new clients with dynamic pricing



Example for increasing margin with monopoly prices



The willingness to pay is sometimes hard to determine

Trucking rates are a good indicator

Often WTP for rail is significantly below the trucking rate

- due to a reduced flexibility
- and often reduced punctuality with rail transport

To initiate the modal shift, a benefit is necessary!

