The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Foreign Firms Could Build New Rail Link

By The Moscow Times

April 11, 2011



Consortiums from four countries have shown interest in taking part in the construction of the Moscow-St. Petersburg high-speed railway line, said Denis Muratov, general director of High-Speed Rail Lines, a subsidiary of Russian Railways, on the sidelines of the Eurasian Transportation and Logistics Forum organized by Vedomosti.

"We have four consortiums that want to take part in the construction," Muratov said, adding that the consortiums include companies from China, Germany, France and South Korea.

The representatives of the consortiums include CNCR and CSN from China, Germany's Deutsche Bahn and Korean Hyundai Construction. These companies will form pools of subcontractors in their own countries for the project.

According to Muratov, negotiations have also been started with Spain's ADIF.

High-Speed Rail Lines is seeking to reach agreements with government agencies on securing financing for the route's construction. Muratov added that this is a difficult and prolonged

task, since the company will have to prove its financing needs to each individual state agency.

Muratov said all deadlines for providing documentation have been met so far by the candidates to lay the railway's track.

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