

## Press Release

Data / Date:  
12/09/2017

### **A summary view of the vacation season on the A1 AmberOne Motorway**

The traffic on the A1 AmberOne Motorway in the summer season exceeded 4 586 000 vehicles. This is more than 286 000 above the figure for the same period last year. The average daily traffic volume reached 74,000 thousand vehicles in July and 73,800 in August, which is ca. 5% more than a year ago.

Increased traffic volume over the vacation season was observed especially on hot weekends. The peak daily traffic of July was recorded at ca. 92 thousand vehicles on Saturday, 22 July 2017. The highest daily traffic volume in August was reported on Saturday, 12 August, with 101,000 thousand vehicles. This is a new traffic record on the A1 AmberOne Motorway.

Despite the steadily growing traffic, the solutions we introduced yielded a ca. 10% increased throughput of the gates compared to the year 2016, most certainly due to the rounding of the toll rates, the modern terminals, and the trend to change the payment method: today, about 20% transactions are paid with cards.

In the vacation season, we also tested a new solution, namely using the outermost, XL lanes as additional entry lanes in Nowa Wieś and Rusocin. The experience accumulated over the summer season indicates that the additional entry lanes fitted with ticket dispensers on the right increase the throughput of the entry gates by 200-250 vehicles per hour. We hope that the positive experience will let us introduce the solution permanently next year.

Pursuant to the decision of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Construction, the gates could be temporarily opened in exceptional circumstances only, i.e. when the nuisance to the travelers was too high. The booms of the exit gates in Nowa Wieś and Rusocin were lifted 55 times altogether on the vacation weekends, for about 30 minutes on each occasion. The move pertained substantially to the easing of the most annoying traffic jams.

Noteworthy, traffic jams in the summer season, especially on hot weekends or at the times of holiday turns, are a natural phenomenon observed in other countries too, irrespective of the tolling system.

Increased traffic carries a larger number of collisions. For instance, the records for July and August 2017 show 186 crashes and 23 accidents with 42 persons injured; there was one fatality in the accidents of the vacation season. For comparison, the traffic incident figures for

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Informacje dodatkowe / Additional information:

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the same period of 2016 were as follows: 129 crashes and 15 accidents with 24 casualties and no fatalities.