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Green Cargo raises transportation efficiency with new brake discs

“Six of our mail wagons will be equipped with the new discs. This winter, we will be taking the wagons for test runs, letting them be part of the regular trains. The tests will run for most of next year,” says Bo Stenback, Head of Wagon Management and Maintenance at Green Cargo.

The new brake discs have several advantages, including the ability to replace worn units without having to dismantle the entire wheel pair. With the previous brake discs, the entire wheel assembly had to be lifted off and sent to the repair shop in Gothenburg. With the new brake discs, only the disc

needs to be lifted off and it can be repaired on site. Another advantage with the new brake discs is that service life has improved. This will lead to a reduced need for workshop visits.

“Our hope is that the switch will increase wagon availability and reduce standing time. The reason we’re making the change on the mail wagons specifically is because these are wagons that run on long routes and are exposed to a great deal of wear,” Bo Stenback says.

The project is being conducted in partnership with Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, which has installed sensors on the brakes to gather information on how the discs are working. This data will be of use to Green Cargo.

“During the test period, we will monitor the function and how wear affects the discs and the brake lining, for later evaluation. If the project is successful, more wagons will have their brake discs gradually replaced with new ones,” Bo Stenback says.

Green Cargo is a sustainable logistics partner and a crucial part of Scandinavia's trade and industry. Almost 98 percent of our transports takes place using electric trains with a very low climate impact. Every 24 hours, some 400 freight trains depart, replacing around 9,000 truckloads on the road network. We serve close to 300 locations in Sweden, Norway and Denmark through our network, and with our partners we reach all of Europe. Green Cargo is owned by the Swedish State. We transport 20 million tonnes of freight, have 1,800 employees and annual sales of about SEK 4,2 billion (2023).

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