

## Innovative Transport System: SkyWay Scores Points in the United Arab Emirates

A few days ago, SkyWay Technologies Co. signed a contract with partners in the United Arab Emirates for the construction of the first transport section on an area of 25 hectares. The SkyWay transport system is capable of transporting 250 million tons of cargo per year.

SkyWay Technologies Co., located in Minsk, Belarus, was one of the surprises at the recent InnoTrans rail exhibition in Berlin. In fact, it develops an innovative transport system of mounted or suspended type capable of carrying cargo and passenger traffic. In cargo type, modules operating in automatic mode can travel at speeds of up to 150 km/h.

According to the SkyWay developer, this vehicle has a high degree of safety, as it moves at a height of several meters above the ground, as well as significant performance capacity. This transportation system transport 250 million tons of cargo per year.



### Concept is being exported to United Arab Emirates

Undoubtedly, such high productivity as well as very low operational costs aroused interest in the United Arab Emirates. On October 14, 2018, an agreement was signed between SkyWay Company and the Research Technology Innovation Park of the Emirate of Sharjah. The official announcement of this came after a month and a half. The agreement provides for the construction of an initial route, the length of which is not specified. It is expected to be completed in 2019 on a plot of 25 hectares.

According to SkyWay General Designer Anatoly Yunitskiy, “preparation for construction began in the spring of 2018. As part of the preliminary work, we have created an integrated project of the SkyWay innovation center in a tropical version. The project includes three test lines, passenger and freight rolling stock, as well as second-level infrastructure: stations, depots, turnouts, power and control systems, etc.” He also notes that “the development of SkyWay in the United Arab Emirates will allow realizing the potential of SkyWay technologies more fully than in Belarus, where we have some difficulties in obtaining the necessary land acquisition.”

In fact, in Belarus SkyWay Technologies Co. has only a short test site where EcoTechnoPark has been created for four years. Therefore, it is not possible to demonstrate the ability of the modules to move at a speed of up to 150 km/h or test their operation in adverse climatic conditions. In addition, test tracks were built only for lightweight vehicles, the mass of which is from 6 to 8 tons.

### Longer track

It is also planned to build a high-speed line outside the innovation center in Sharjah for the modernization of the passenger module. It will extend for a distance of 25 km in another emirate of the United Arab Emirates. This length will be enough for the unibus module to reach a speed of 500 km/h. Thus, the company will be able to demonstrate the ability of its machines to work under challenging climatic conditions in the Middle East.

Indeed, as is the case with other innovative transport systems, SkyWay Technologies Co. will have to convince investors to finance the project, in which all variables need to be clarified.