

SHANGHAI NOW

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This year's first "CIIE Train" of the China-Europe Railway Express arrived in Shanghai on October 11. — Dong Jun

First 'CIIE Train' arrives in city from Europe

Huang Yixuan

THIS year's first "CIIE Train" of the China-Europe Railway Express (or China Railway Express, CR Express) arrived at the Shanghai Minhang Station on October 11, with the 6th China International Import Expo entering its final stretch.

Departing from Duisburg, Germany, on September 21, the train carried a variety of exhibits destined for the CIIE, showcasing the growing significance of the China-Europe rail route as a crucial channel

for international trade.

Loaded with goods, including cosmetics from Fortune Global 500 companies, the cargo on the train held a total value of over 16 million euros (US\$17 million) in 70 TEUs, according to Tong Jisheng, chairman of Orient International Holding.

The train has garnered special attention as two Fortune Global 500 companies have chosen it to transport their exhibits, signaling their faith in the reliability and efficiency of the rail route.

In line with the upcoming 6th CIIE, three "CIIE Trains" are arranged this year, which are expected to carry 210 TEUs with a cargo value exceeding 350 million yuan (US\$47.97 million) in total. Currently, the departure stations for the trains include Duisburg and Hamburg in Germany, and Malaszewicze in Poland.

It has become an important transportation partner for countries in Europe to exhibit at the CIIE, further enhancing the positive impact of the expo and solidifying Shanghai's role

as a leading hub in the Belt and Road Initiative.

This year also holds a special significance for both the BRI and the CR Express "Shanghai Train," celebrating their tenth and second anniversaries, respectively.

The "Shanghai Train" has been a crucial passage for firms from Europe and neighboring countries to participate in the CIIE, forging new opportunities for collaboration and economic growth. Since its inauguration in 2021, the train has played a key role in supporting the

transportation from exhibits to commodities.

With its comprehensive coverage and extensive network, the "Shanghai Train" has run 72 trains so far this year, carrying 7,272 TEUs with a cumulative cargo weight of around 68,000 tons and a combined cargo value of 2.38 billion yuan. This expansive rail route spans the China-Europe route, China-Russia route, and China-Central Asia route, connecting over 60 cities and stations in nine countries across Eurasia.

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