



**Back-on-Track, Denmark**

**20.10. 2020**

## **Strengthened NightJet Zürich-Hamburg also to Copenhagen / Scandinavian link**

Dear Armin Weber (SBB) and Kurt Bauer (ÖBB)!

Cc: Lars Krogsdam, DSB

From Danish Back-on-Track we are pleased to notice the preparedness that is shown from Swiss authorities to improve the night train network from Switzerland to several new destinations.

Seen from a Danish and Swedish perspective a new NightJet from Zürich to Hamburg is interesting if it could be prolonged to Copenhagen.

That is feasible if it run northbound 1½ hour before the existing NightJet, that is a departure from Zürich around 18:30, and will give Hamburg an early arrival at tentatively 6:22 and an arrival to the final stop in Copenhagen at 11:00 (with short stops in Schleswig (connecting Flensburg), Kolding, Odense and Ringsted).

And it could run southbound from Copenhagen tentatively 18:30, to pick passengers from Ringsted, Odense, Kolding, Schleswig and Hamburg Hbh. If so, the train will pick passengers in Hamburg around 23:00, and hereby give Hamburg a later connection to the Rhine valley, Basel and arriving at Zürich around 11:00. That is 2 hours after the existing NighJet.

We suppose this is not a completely new idea to any of you. But since the Swiss ambitions are now in the public, it would feel awkward not to bring it to your attention from our side.

There is no contradiction between the Scandinavian link and the Swiss ambition also to make a second train to Berlin and Prague.

It is probably also not a surprise, that the Scandinavian ambition would include also a second branch of a Copenhagen NightJet, which could take passengers from/to München and eventually further.

Below we bring, what we have observed from SBB on this matter.

Yours

Back-on-Track, Denmark (represented by Poul Kattler)

### **News from SBB:**

- On September 15 2020, SBB and ÖBB announced they will extend the Nightjet-Network together, with more connections from Switzerland coming soon.

- We have noticed the SBB press release and map of the new network here: <https://company.sbb.ch/en/media/media-relations/press-releases/detail.html/2020/9/1509-1>

That includes:

- Starting December 2021: New Nightjet Zurich-Amsterdam, rolling stock will be leased from RDC Asset GmbH.

- Starting December 2022: A new line from Zurich to Hamburg and Berlin, trains will be split so that there will be a new connection to Leipzig (final destination Berlin) and Dresden (final destination Prague).

- Possibly starting 2024: New Nightjets Zurich-Rome and Zurich-Barcelona.

Financing: the new CO2-law in Switzerland foresees a climate fund with max. 30 Mio. Swiss Francs per year for advancing international rail service including night trains. This funding would support SBB's plans on expanding night trains.