

# Belarusians at the Arab “Silicon Valley”

*SkyWay string transport project gets off  
the ground in United Arab Emirates*

SkyWay Technologies Co. has created and is promoting around the world a new mode of transport - an eco-friendly and energy-efficient complex SkyWay, arranged above the ground on lightweight overpasses designed using a special technology. In Belarus, the Company's project engineers managed to develop and certify several types of transport modules, build and test infrastructure for them, and even create a prototype of a high-speed module that can travel at speeds of up to 500 kilometers per hour.



After numerous exhibitions and representative visits to the test site of the project - EcoTechnoPark, during which the Belarusian novelty was examined under a magnifying glass, the project received an offer that could be hardly refused: SkyWay transport has obtained a place at the Sharjah Innovation Technology Park in the United Arab Emirates. For people who follow the news of the technology world, the UAE has already managed to earn the glory of a new Silicon Valley:

the most daring projects find support there - from flying taxis to block-chain startups.

In the UAE, "SkyWay Technologies" plan to adapt urban and cargo vehicles to harsh operating conditions of the Middle East. They have already shown themselves at the test site in Belarus.

As noted by the Company's management, in addition to the site in Sharjah, a large plot was also allocated

for SkyWay project in another emirate - its exact location is not disclosed so far, but it is already known that a hyper-speed test route reaching speeds above 1,000 km/h will be built there. In parallel with conducting tests, "SkyWay Technologies" plan to agree upon commercial projects in the UAE and the Middle East - the first agreements are already available, the matter depends now on successful tests of transport modules in a tropical version.

Not long ago, the Crown Prince of Dubai Sheikh Hamdan ibn Mohammed Al Maktoum spoke about SkyWay transport at his twitter account: "Dubai thinks out-of-the-box... It is taking bold steps with the aim of kick-starting a revolution in transportation by undertaking new projects such as the Dubai Sky pods, a futuristic mobility system that requires one tenth the infrastructure of conventional transit systems."

Two SkyWay transport modules were demonstrated to the Crown Prince. The first model was a unibike. It is a small, lightweight vehicle on steel wheels running along overhead rails. Its passenger capacity is 1-5 people. The maximum speed is 150 km/h, and the traffic capacity is about 20,000 passengers per hour.

The second model was a single-section unicar, a passenger module designed for transportation over distances of up to 200 kilometers. The pod accommodates from 1 to 6 people with the possibility of adding more sections. Unicar moves with a maximum speed of 150 km/h. It can service about 50,000 passengers per hour.

The presentation of SkyWay transport to the Crown Prince was held under the auspices of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) - the equivalent of our Ministry of Transport. RTA Director-General Mattar Al Tayer is utterly positive regarding the novelty: in a publication at the Arabian Business portal, he said that SkyWay transport



▲ The unicar exhibited in Dubai can easily increase passenger traffic just some more sections should be added.

▲ In addition to test tracks for demonstrating the possibilities of string transport, the project of SkyWay Innovation Center in Sharjah includes an Institute that will train professionals in the new sector.



allows using 100 times less ground space compared to usual modes of transport with similar throughput capacity. At the same time, SkyWay modules surpass electric cars by 5 times in energy efficiency and require 10 times less infrastructure.■

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