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Important Link Forged with Swiss Railway Societies

Following almost two years of negotiations, an informal agreement has been reached between the **Schweizerischen Verbandes Eisenbahn Amateur** (SVEA) and the **Swiss Railways Society**. It entailed the attendance of the Chairman at the SVEA AGM in Brienz this year and the formal presentation of the proposal to over 100 delegates. It was passed unanimously.

The agreement is believed to be unique. The immediate benefit is that the magazine of the SVEA, *Eisenbahn Amateur*, is made available at a very advantageous rate. But this entails more work for our Membership Secretary, Treasurer and USA Co-ordinator because we must collect the money, prepare address labels to cover a whole year's magazines and make a single payment in Swiss Francs well before the end of December.

The first issue of *Eisenbahn Amateur* will be January 1993 and, because this is the first year, those who wish to take advantage of this offer **must complete the enclosed application form and send it to the Membership Secretary with the appropriate subscription to reach him by 15 October 1992**, except for members in the USA who should send their forms and subscriptions to **Gary Hartman by the same date**.

The following should also be noted. The address labels of participants will be sent to Switzerland for the sole purpose of the despatch of the magazines. Also, cancellation of an order cannot be accepted after 25 November.

Because the price of *Eisenbahn Amateur* for the following year is not set until after this issue of *Swiss Express* closes for press, a judgment has to be made about the cost of the magazine, postage and administration charges, but every effort will be made to see that the rates appearing on the application form are fair and reasonable.

We hope that a large number of members

will take advantage of this very special arrangement.

A translation of the text of the agreement is given below:

An Informal agreement

between the Swiss Railways Society (SRS) and the Society of Swiss Railway Enthusiasts (SVEA)

1. Those members of the SRS who wish to do so may take the magazine *Eisenbahn Amateur* at a preferential price which included postage and packing.
2. The SRS will collate the orders and addresses and pass them together as one to the printers before the end of the calendar year. Members in the USA will do the same through their representative there.
3. Annual subscriptions are to be paid in Swiss Francs.
4. The SRS is to send two copies of its Journal, *Swiss Express* as it is published and a copy of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting to the SVEA. The SVEA will send a copy of the minutes of its Annual General Meeting. These will be in German and French.
5. The SRS will act as a focal point for the SVEA for all railway related matters in the United Kingdom: this arrangement being reciprocated for Swiss railway matters. (It is emphasised that communication is to be between the societies and not private individuals.)
6. This agreement can be terminated at the end of any calendar year with two months notice.

A.J.Pike

Pierre Blattner

Via Mala

Mike Polglaze informs us that the HOm *Via Mala* layout will be at the following exhibitions:

19/20 September	Bournemouth
7/8 November	Basingstoke
27/28 November	Wakefield