



European Rail Forum
Freight without Frontiers
October 29th, Paris



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PROGRAMME

Rail freight tomorrow - What will it be?

- How does technological innovation contribute to pushing back boundaries?
- How is rail adapting to new demand?
- What are the best practices at European and local level?
- How is the environmental value of new projects assessed and taken into account in national policies?
- What is the best type of regulation for our industry?

Political decision-makers, MEPs and MPs, EU officials, high-level professionals and experts will meet to discuss current work and make specific proposals.

Moderator: Nigel Campbell

8.30 a.m. Welcome coffee

8.55 a.m. Welcome address by Hubert du Mesnil, Chairman of Réseau ferré de France and Vice-chairman of EIM

9.00 a.m. Introduction by Dominique Bussereau, French State Secretary of Transport

9.10 a.m. Antonio Tajani European Commissioner for Transport

9.25 a.m. - 9.55 a.m. PRESS CONFERENCE
with Dominique Bussereau, French Secretary of State of Transport Antonio Tajani, European Commissioner for Transport and Hubert du Mesnil, Chairman of Réseau ferré de France and Vice-chairman of EIM

9.30 - 10.45 a.m. Session 1 « Moving Trains without Frontiers: Myth or Reality? »

The European corridor concept constitutes a response to the need to concentrate freight traffic flows. Corridors form a vital interface for international freight exchanges. What can be done to improve traffic on them and how far is technological innovation the key to success?

- What are the obstacles encountered by railway undertakings on the freight network?
- Technological innovation: how can short-term demand for results be reconciled with the reality of sluggish transition due to the structural inertia of the rail system?
- How can technical differences be avoided?
- Why is long-term public support so vital?
- What lessons can we draw from the ERTMS experience?
- Traffic control: are we moving towards a Eurocontrol for railways?

Chairman of the session:

- Gilles Savary, Member of the European Parliament

Introductory speaker:

- Philippe Mellier, Chairman Alstom Transport

Speakers:

- Luc Lallemand, CEO Infrabel
- Laurens Jan Brinkhorst, European Coordinator, European Commission
- Michael Cramer, Member of the European Parliament
- Luc Nadal, Director Fret SNCF
- Karel Vinck, European Coordinator, European Commission

10.45 - 11.15 a.m. Break



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11.15 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. Session 2 «Innovation through Services: How is Rail Responding to its Competitive Market Environment? »

Recent developments in Europe show that the railway now operates in a market environment driven by competitive forces: efforts to achieve performance, adaptation to demand, ability to innovate in terms of services.

- What are the pros and cons of forwarding goods by rail?
- Is innovation through services the answer to rail freight's declining market share?
- What lessons can be drawn from success stories from abroad?
- What is the potential of the sea-rail combination?
- What is the rationale behind the developing of "feeder lines" (the function of which is to support activities on corridors or main lines)?

Chairman of the session:

- Philippe Duron, Member of the French Parliament, Co-chairman of TDIE

Introductory speaker:

- Claude Samson, Director General Samada (Monoprix)

Speakers:

- Ines Ayala-Sender, Member of the European Parliament
- Lord Berkeley, Chairman of Rail Freight Group
- Victor Schoenmakers, Director Europe, Port of Rotterdam
- Michail Stahlhut, Member of the board Arriva Deutschland

12.30 p.m. Lunch at the Hilton Hotel

2.00 p.m. - 3.15 p.m. Session 3 « Can Rail Freight Produce Environmental Benefits? »

The railway is rightly a subject of environmental concern for society today. At a global level the railway represents a chance to reverse trends and improve the carbon footprint of our transport scenarios. At the same time, however, local environmental impact is bound to increase. How can we reconcile these contradictory trends?

- Is it possible to make greater allowance for sustainable development when demonstrating the benefits of projects such as freight lines bypassing built-up areas?
- How can rail contribute to reaching the factor 4 objective?
- What can be done to improve the social acceptance of rail freight projects?
- What can be done to further improve the environmental footprint of rail freight – and more particularly the noise factor?
- How can the interplay between public decisions and economic calculations be improved?

Chairman of the session:

- Michel Bouvard, Member of the French Parliament, Co-chairman of TDIE

Introductory speaker:

- Adrien Zeller, President of Alsace Region

Speakers:

- Pieter Kraaijeveld, Director of the Capacity Management department Prorail
- Paulo Mendes-Jorge, Senior Engineer, European Investment Bank
- Mino Akhtarzand, Director General Banverket
- Michel Dubromel, France Nature Environnement

3.15 - 3.45 p.m. Break



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3.45 – 5.00 p.m. Session 4 « How Should our Industry Be Regulated? »

Two major facets of market regulation are currently being discussed in Brussels: a) clarification of the role of the railway regulators, b) prices. The most recent Communications of the European Commission - on the internalisation of external costs and noise abatement measures for railways - together with the revision of the Eurovignette directive set the tone: each transport mode should internalise its costs for society.

- Railway charging: who pays and why?
- What lessons can be drawn from other industries?
- What best practices could be adopted from the most advanced countries?
- What are railway undertakings expecting from renewed regulation?

Chairman:

- Hervé Mariton, Member of the French Parliament

Introductory speaker:

- Chris Bolt, non-executive Chairman of the British Office of Rail Regulation

Speakers:

- Pierre-André Meyrat, Vice-director of the Swiss Federal Office of Transport
- Luca Ronzoni, Chairman of ERFA
- Dr Pr Karsten Otte, Director of Railways Regulation in the Bundesnetzagentur
- Enrico Grillo-Pasquarelli, Director DG TREN, European Commission
- Denis Paillat, Director of Veolia Cargo

5.00 – 5.45 p.m. Conclusions and closing session

- Etienne Davignon, European Coordinator, European Commission
- Johannes Ludewig, Executive Director of CER
- Hubert du Mesnil, Chairman of Réseau ferré de France and Vice-chairman of EIM
- Czech or Swedish Presidency of the European Union (to be confirmed)

5.45 p.m - 6.15 p.m **PRESS CONFERENCE**

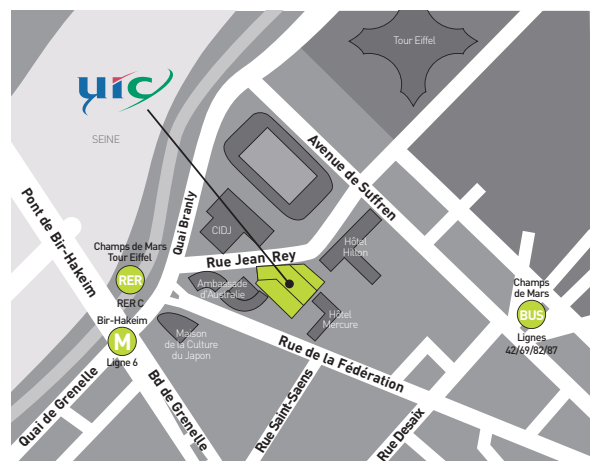
PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Languages

The languages used at the conference will be French, English, German and Italian. For the audience, translation into French and English will be provided.

Registration

Registration by personal invitation at eu.railforum@marketplace.fr
Journalists: Registration on the EU presidency website: www.ue2008.fr/



Venue

UIC
16 rue Jean Rey
75015 Paris
France

Metro: Bir Hakeim (Line 6)
RER: Champ de Mars (RER Line C)
Bus lines: 42, 69, 82, 87
Taxi rank: Champ de Mars

