



Confident growth

Combined Transport delivered a strong performance of +3,17% during the first quarter of 2021, which is especially impressive if considering that the same period of 2020 was largely free of pandemic-related restrictions. The slow restart of passenger trains contributed positively to the punctuality of intermodal trains, while the temporary Danish ban on semi-trailer transport and the Rhine Valley landslide could not weigh down CT. The Sentiment Index for the next 12 months has been upgraded to 'positive' reflecting the confidence in the rebound from the pandemic and in overcoming the various traffic disturbances.

Three major disturbances occurred to freight transport, all of which impacted Combined Transport:

- Intermodal rail carriage of semi-trailers in pocket wagons continued to be effectively banned in Denmark until the end of April due to a lack of ability to define intermediate measures for recommencing with these transports after the safety incident that occurred on the Great Belt Bridge in January
- A landslide near Kestert in the Rhine Valley rendered the right bank two tracks unusable. The line is used by over 200 freight trains daily – mostly intermodal trains. One of the two tracks has been restored after 6 weeks of intense clean-up efforts.
- The mega-container vessel, *Ever Given*, has run aground in the Suez Canal in late March, which blocked this important waterway holding up over 400 vessels wanting to cross. The resulting major disturbance in port activities adversely affects CT trains extensively in port hinterland relations to this day.

UIRR actively intervened to assist with the crisis management effort and to help restore normal operations as soon as possible.

Combined Transport-related law-making is picking up pace in the European legislature: the new CEF Regulation has been agreed in March, the Eurovignette Directive on road tolling is in a trialogue phase, while the proposal to revise the TEN-T Regulation is in the final phase of drafting. The Fit for 55 Package of legislations to facilitate the implementation of the European Green Deal is also in the final stretch. UIRR has provided input to all these efforts through multiple means to ensure that the interests of Combined Transport are adequately reflected.

The week of 17 May will be of particular importance for UIRR as the Annual Ordinary General Assembly will convene on Thursday, 20 May, to elect the Board of Directors and to decide the adjustment of UIRR's vision, mission, and strategy. The General Assembly will be followed by a consultation of UIRR CEOs and MoU peers with the senior management of DG MOVE. On Friday, 21 May, UIRR will be co-producing the online conference on Charging for the Access to State-Owned Transport Infrastructure, which will explore the future of one of the most important cost components of transport services.

Ralf-Charley Schultze – President



Charging for the access to state-owned transport infrastructure
Online conference, 21 May 2021



How rail freight helps achieving climate goals
Online conference, 20 May 2021

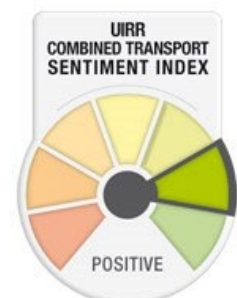
CONTENTS

Temporary ban on semi-trailer transport by rail through Denmark.....	2
Landslide in the Rhine Valley impacts rail freight heavily.....	2
P400 service developments in France	2
Agreement signed to develop Helsinki-Tallin railway tunnel.....	2
Revised TEN-T Regulation should develop infrastructure for freight	2
Belgium joins Member States to post legal challenge to the Mobility Package	2
Report identifies rail and maritime transport as best for climate.....	2
IRU projects shortage of truck drivers	2
Eco-tax for trucks, eco-label for freight trains.....	3
Combined Transport in the light of the European Green Deal.....	3
New CEF Regulation to deliver funding for freight infrastructure.....	3
KV4.0 digital datahub for Combined Transport	3
MODILITY intermodal booking platform launched	3
Netherlands unveils incentive programme to facilitate modal shift	3
Personnel News.....	4
Members' News.....	4
Key Dates & Events.....	4

IIRR Quarterly CT Performance Gauge



Business outlook for the 12 months between 1 April 2021 - 31 March 2022



Quality Performance of Rail Freight

Temporary ban on semi-trailer transport by rail through Denmark

April 2021

The urgent procedure concerning semi-trailers transported in pocket wagons along Denmark's Great Belt Bridge has been concluded with a set of temporary requirements. A permanent solution must involve infrastructure-side changes to mitigate the effects of the strong side-winds particular to the Great Belt Bridge.

Links: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1874-era-jns-procedure-incident-on-the-great-belt-bridge-of-13012021-closed-.html>
- <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1831-breaking-semi-trailer-transport-to-resume-in-denmark.html>

Landslide in the Rhine-valley impacts rail freight heavily

March-May 2021

A landslide near Kestert along the right bank of the Rhine Valley railway line rendered the double track railway line – part of the Rhine-Alpine Rail Freight Corridor – unusable for 8 weeks. The section handles over 200 freight trains daily. In light of the major disturbance caused, DB Netze's decision not to launch an international contingency procedure will have to be considered.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2021/mediacentre/1817-nee-uirr-joint-press-statement-rail-freight-standstill-in-the-rhine-valley.html>
- <https://www.deutschebahn.com/pr-frankfurt-de/Deutsche-Bahn-arbeitet-an-dauerhafter-Befestigung-fuer-Felshang-in-Kestert-6173526>

P400 service developments in France

February 2021

The development of P400 compliant Combined Transport, especially when using 2,6m-wide refrigerated semi-trailers, is critically important on North-South relations in Europe. Transiting France with such cargo is especially problematic.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1806-bureaucracy-still-hampers-expansion-of-p400-network-across-europ.html>

Agreement signed to build Helsinki-Tallin railway tunnel

April 2021

Finland and Estonia signed an agreement to build the Helsinki-Tallin railway tunnel, which will extend the UIC gauge Rail Baltica extension of the North Sea-Baltic Rail Freight Corridor to Helsinki.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1847-finland-and-estonia-signed-mou-including-helsinki-tallinn-tunnel.html>

Fair, Mode-neutral Regulatory Framework

Revised TEN-T Regulation should deliver infrastructure for freight

April 2021

The European Commission launched the public consultation that is to feed into the proposal to revise the TEN-T Regulation, which sets out the framework for transport infrastructure development in the European Union. The Trans-European transport infrastructure should equally serve the needs of freight and passenger operators.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2021/mediacentre/1829-press-release-ten-t-should-also-serve-combined-transport.html>

Belgium and Poland: legal challenge to the Mobility Package

March 2021

Belgium decided to join the East European countries which challenged the cabotage-provisions of the Mobility Package at the European Court of Justice. Poland extended its challenge to cover the optional possibility to suspend Article 4 of the CT Directive.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1780-cabotage-recours-de-la-belgique-a-la-cour-europeenne-de-justice.html>
- <https://polandin.com/52410097/mobility-package-bad-for-climate-ec-confirms-polands-concerns>

IRU projects serious shortage of truck drivers

March 2021

A survey by IRU predicts a 17% truck driver shortage in Europe over 2021, which is feared to negatively impact the road legs of the CT transport chains if added to the effects of the Mobility Package.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1794-new-iru-survey-shows-driver-shortages-to-soar-in-2021.html>

Report identifies rail and waterborne transport as best for climate

March 2021

The study commissioned by the European Environment Agency was conducted by Fraunhofer ISI and CE Delft. The task was to develop a method for reporting on the GHG efficiency of the main modes of transport in Europe. Waterborne and rail freight have been found to be the lowest carbon-footprint modes of cargo transport.

Link: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/rail-and-waterborne-transport>

Eco tax for trucks and eco-label for freight trains

March 2021

DB and SNCF proposed the introduction of an eco-tax for long-distance trucking and an eco-label for climate-friendly transport. With an eco-label for rail transport, consumers could see at a glance how climate-friendly the goods are being transported.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1795-db-sncf-oekosteuer-fuer-lkw-a-oekolabel-fuer-die-bahn.html>

Enhancement of Intermodal Transport

Combined Transport in the light of the European Green Deal

March / May 2021

UIRR highlighted the role Combined Transport can play in the achievement of global climate targets, as well as in the ambitious decarbonisation aims of the European Union. The roadmap: *Combined Transport in the light of the European Green Deal* describes a series of legislative and policy actions that the intermodal sector recommends to the European policymakers and legislators for the coming years as necessary to empower Combined Transport to deliver to the fullest of its capabilities.

Links: <http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2021/mediacentre/1788-press-release-combined-transport-delivers-paris-agreement-aims.html>
- <http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2021/mediacentre/1838-iana-and-uirr-highlight-intermodals-benefits-in-advance-of-world-climate-summit.html>
- <http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2021/mediacentre/1876-roadmap-combined-transport-in-light-of-eu-green-deal.html>

New CEF Regulation to deliver funding for freight infrastructure

April 2021

The new Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Regulation came into force on 1 April 2021. The CEF2 Regulation sets out the conditions for the most important infrastructure financing programme of the European Union, which aims to assist the upgrade of the TEN-T network. Transshipment terminals, providing access for freight to the rail infrastructure, are essential gateways of the TEN-T network. The first CEF2 Call for Proposals is expected in June 2021.

Link: <https://ec.europa.eu/inea/connecting-europe-facility/cef-transport>
- <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=4366bd6c-341f-4c83-8c3b-38cfc77d8685>

KV4.o digital datahub for Combined Transport

March 2021

The KV4.o Project built an integrated data hub in order to increase transparency across the entire intermodal transport chain. All participating partners will provide the relevant and transport-related data, starting from the first (electronic) booking with the intermodal operator, to the train run information until the collection of the loading unit at the arrival terminal. Project objectives are to exchange and process existing electronic data (train run information, order information, status information terminal/truck) to better serve the shippers and to optimize operations.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/component/downloads/downloads/1457.html>
- <http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/articles-on-uirr/2021/mediacentre/1721-digitalisierung-braucht-alle-hupac-dvz.html>

MODILITY intermodal booking platform launched

March 2021

A new digital portal offers a new possibility to market Combined Transport capacities as well as for freight forwarders to easily find and book these. www.modility.com

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1797-portal-kv-start-fuer-digitale-buchung.html>

Netherlands unveils incentive programme to support modal shift

April 2021

The Dutch government will financially support companies in the Netherlands that want to shift transport volumes from road to rail or barge. This was announced by Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management Cora van Nieuwenhuizen and State Secretary Stientje Van Veldhoven.

Eligible for the financial support are logistics companies providing small or medium-sized transports and bundling cargo and entrepreneurs who want to work on a modal shift. This requires that they come up with a concrete proposal on how they want to move goods from road to water or rail.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1828-government-grants-for-dutch-companies-that-want-to-shift-to-rail.html>

Personnel News

FELB

April 2021



FELB (Far East Land Bridge) has strengthened its position with the appointment of **Uwe Leuschner** as new CEO. In his new role at one of the leading railway operators in Eurasia, Mr Leuschner will concentrate on the Strategic Alignments of FELB Group, Business Development and International Relations. He previously worked as Senior Vice President, Business Development Eurasia at DB Cargo AG and disposes over more than two decades of experience in the logistics industry.

KOMBIVERKEHR

March 2021



Jouke Schaap took on the new position of Manager Benelux in the International Sales Department. Mr Schaap had occupied a variety of managerial positions since 2004, including stints working for the Port of Rotterdam, APM Terminals, Peel Ports and Shuttlewise B.V. Among the responsible posts he held were director breakbulk, head of the commercial department, port director (containers) and managing director. Schaap studied international management at the Haarlem Business School before graduating from Rotterdam's Erasmus University with an MBA.

Members' News

AMBROGIO

March 2020

New investment: 150 light swap bodies

Click: <https://ambrogiointermodal.com/news/nuovo-investimento-150-casse-mobili-light/>

CFL MULTIMODAL

January 2021

New investment: 50 double pocket wagons

Click: <https://www.cfl-mm.lu/en-gb/news/detail/cfl-multimodal-developpe-l%e2%80%99intermodal-avec-l%e2%80%99appui>

EAST-WEST GATE

January 2021

Follow the construction works via live video feed

Click: <https://eastwestil.com/en/live-video/>

HUPAC

February 2021

2020 traffic remained above 1 million road consignments

Click: <https://www.hupac.com/EN/2020-Hupac-keeps-traffic-volume-of-1-million-road-consignments-008a4300>

HUPAC

March 2021

Construction works started on new Brwinow terminal in Poland

Click: <https://www.hupac.com/EN/Start-of-construction-at-the-Brwinow-terminal-Hupac-invests-on-the-East-West-axis-7989e800>

INTERPORTO BOLOGNA

March 2021

Sustainable investments improve energy efficiency of the terminal

Click: <https://www.interporto.it/interporto-di-bologna-l-infrastruttura-sempre-piu-green-3714>

JOHN G RUSSELL

January 2021

The Russell Group's latest newsletter

Click: <https://www.johngrussell.co.uk/news/dispatch-2020/>

KOMBIVERKEHR

February 2021

2020 traffic levels exceeded 850.000 road consignments

Click: https://www.kombiverkehr.de/en/presse/Press_Releases/kombiverkehr_increases_volumes_in_fourth_quarter_of_2020

MERCITALIA INTERMODAL

February 2021

New bilingual website

Click: https://www.mercitaliaintermodal.it/content/mercitalia_intermodal/en.html

METRANS

February 2021

Construction of new terminal in Zalaegerszeg, Hungary

Click: <https://metrans.eu/metrans-to-expand-network-through-the-new-investment-in-hungary/>

NOVATRANS/GREENMODAL

January 2021

New bilingual website

Click: <https://novatrans-greenmodal.eu/en/news/item/95-3-2-1-here-we-go>

SAMSKIP

May 2021

New investment: 1100 containers

Click: <https://www.samskip.com/news/samskip-adds-1100-new-containers-to-its-fleet/>

Key Dates & Events

17-28 May 2021, online	ITF Summit: Transport innovation for sustainable development
20 May 2021, online	ERA webinar: How rail freight helps achieving climate goals
20 May 2021, online	UIRR Ordinary General Assembly
21 May 2021, online	European Infrastructure Charging Conference
26 May 2021, online	GNTC webinar: Myths and Realities of Combined Transport
27-28 May 2021, Oslo	ESPO Maritime Conference
1 June 2021, online	BMVI 9 th National Freight and Logistics Conference
4 June 2021, online	Florence Intermodal Forum: Greening European Cargo Operations
21 June 2021, online	COMBINE Project Final Conference



UIRR sc

Address: 31 rue Montoyer
B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: +32 2 548 78 90

E-mail: news@uirr.com

Internet: www.uirr.com

Editor: Ákos Érsek, UIRR