



Clouds gathering on intermodal skies

The gradually slowing growth of Combined Transport that was observed towards the end of the first half of the year continued in the third quarter of 2018 as rail freight quality performance and the SNCF strikes in France hindered performance. The UIRR CT Sentiment Index remains at "slightly positive", which – despite the highly disruptive French railway strikes – indicates the continued confidence of the sector for the coming twelve months.


The growth rate of Combined Transport was not alone in slowing between July and October: the legislative process of adopting the amended Combined Transport Directive also lost some steam. Whereas the European Parliament Transport Committee adopted its position on the amendment with a convincing 80% majority before the summer, the Austrian Council Presidency failed to uphold the intensity of talks within the Council Working Group – failing to convene even a single meeting in the third quarter of 2018. UIRR, together with FEPORT and UIP, organised a day trip on 17 September for Brussels-based transport attachés of the Council Working Group to kick-start the deliberations. Reaching a constructive consensus on this highly overdue revision is imperative to ensure that Combined Transport delivers the results expected of it in the fight against climate change and freight transport externalities.

The clouds may only be gathering on the skies of intermodal freight transport in Europe, as the growth rate of intermodal transport both in North America and between Europe and Asia has remained robust. North America reported 7.2 and 6.2 percent intermodal growth during the first and second quarters of the year respectively. Over the same period a near 40% growth was realised along the Trans-Siberian line – travelling between Asia and Europe. Doubtless, European policy-makers understand the reasons that hinder Combined Transport and are intervening through rail freight support schemes and other measures.

A position paper was issued on the Commission's electronic freight transport information (eFTI) regulation proposal, in which UIRR has endorsed the concept seeing in it – if done correctly – the ultimate motivation for digitalization in the freight transport sector. The end of the period brought about the first anniversary of the Rastatt incident. UIRR reminded the public, together with ERFA and NEE, that the reason for the collapse is still to be established and the financial compensation extended to those affected. The speed of development of the Contingency Handbook designed to mitigate the effects of future international incidents on the rail infrastructure must be praised. More efforts, based on it, will be needed however if shippers' confidence levels in rail freight are to be restored to pre-Rastatt levels.

During the third quarter of 2018 UIRR continued to focus its activities on contributing to the performance of rail freight, the creation of a fair, mode-neutral regulatory framework in transport and the enhancement of intermodal transport, as well as it will continue to do so in the time ahead through participating in Commission-, as well as sector-organized efforts, European projects and the works of the European Union Agency for Railways and CEN/CENELEC.

Ralf-Charley Schultze – President



**CombiNet Tagung
Conference**

Vienna, 8 November 2018



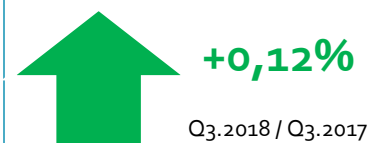
**Rail Freight Day
Conference**

Vienna, 6 December 2018

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UIRR Quarterly CT Performance Gauge



Business outlook for the 12 months between 1 October 2018 - 30 September 2019



Performance of Rail Freight

First Anniversary of the Rastatt incident

October 2018

ERFA, NEE and UIRR have issued a joint press release on the anniversary of the Rastatt incident. The follow-up work so far has been part commendable, part disappointing.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2018/mediacentre/1016-erfa-nee-uirr-press-release-rastatt-anniversary.html>

Implementation is weak point of German Rail Freight Master Plan

September 2018

Whereas the German government was highly praised when adopting its Master Plan for Rail Freight nearly a year ago, the implementation of the plan has not progressed as smoothly as several sector players had hoped. Rail freight stakeholders have united in speaking up to ask for an unhesitant and consistent implementation.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1019-industry-calls-for-rapid-implementation-of-rail-freight-master-plan-in-germany.html>

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1023-master-plan-for-rail-freight-transport-in-germany-implement-the-program-faster-.html>

Dutch track access charge hiked while line capacity runs out

July-August 2018

Rail freight operators object to the method of calculating mark-ups to be introduced from December into the Dutch track access charge regime. Simultaneously, the Dutch infrastructure has been declared fully saturated – offering no more new train paths to freight trains; and the capacity outlook is bleak.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1039-rail-freight-operators-not-happy-with-dutch-new-track-access-charges.html>

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1038-dutch-railway-network-full-little-space-left-for-additional-trains.html>

Swedish track access charges reviewed

August 2018

Swedish authorities have announced the upward revision of track access charges, however access fees to use the rail network will not contain mark-ups.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1034-swedish-track-access-charges-reviewed-marginal-costs-are-too-low.html>

German railway union laments locomotive driver shortage

August 2018

The GDL union remarked that 600 drivers are still missing despite Deutsche Bahn's frantic locomotive driver recruitment efforts.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1035-union-laments-locomotive-shortage-.html>

NGO recommends measures to promote rail freight

September 2018

Transport & Environment working with Fraunhofer ISI have developed 6 policy recommendations in a long study effort that examined what would be necessary to put more freight on rail.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1026-7-lessons-on-how-to-put-more-freight-on-rail.html>

Commission study analyses border crossing bottlenecks

September 2018

365 border crossing points were studied and 176 missing links identified in the recently announced study. Recommendations were formulated how to overcome the problems.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1046-analysis-of-the-existing-cross-border-rail-transport-connections-and-missing-links-on-the-internal-eu-borders.html>

Mode-neutral, Fair Regulatory Framework

Germany dishes out biased state-aid for training

July 2018

The German government announced €125 million funding for truck driver training, €2,5 million for inland navigation crews and none for locomotive drivers.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1028-state-funding-for-training-in-freight-transport-.html>

European Commission 2019 work plan

October 2018

The work plan for the final year of the Juncker Commission contains 5 priority pending initiatives for transport, including the amendment of the Combined Transport Directive.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1022-european-commission-work-plan-2019-announced.html>

European legislators consider new CO₂ emission standards for HGVs

September 2018

A contentious debate is ongoing in the European Parliament and among the Member States considering the required reduction of truck CO₂ emissions in the European Union.

Link <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1043-truck-co2-standards.html>

Academics: mental shift must precede modal shift

September 2018

The Brain Trains project offers 25 measures where governments and the economic players should consider changing their thinking in order to be able to deliver modal shift.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1041-before-modal-shift-mental-shift-needed-in-rail.html>

Enhancement of Intermodal Transport

Polish railways decide major intermodal rolling stock programme

August 2018

In view of the significant growth of intermodal transport in Poland PKP Cargo launched a programme to acquire rolling stock needed to further advance the growth.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1044-pkp-cargo-to-tender-the-procurement-of-936-flat-wagons.html>

North America continues to deliver substantial intermodal growth

July 2018

After a robust 2017 performance, intermodal freight transport recorded further massive advances during the first half of 2018.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1029-h12018-north-america-continuing-intermodal-gains.html>

Major intermodal growth between Europe and Asia

July 2018

UTLC reported a 40% increase in the number of containers shipped during the first half of 2018 between Asia and Europe, with June reaching a historic high in volumes.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1030-freight-volumes-utlc-on-new-silk-road-up-40-this-year.html>

First train Japan-Russia via Trans-Siberian railway

July 2018

Following an agreement between Japan and Russia, intermodal delivery of containerised cargo began between the two countries.

Link <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1040-1st-train-japan-russia-via-trans-siberian-railway-to-arrive.html>

New trimodal terminal opens in Lauterbourg

July 2018

The Port of Strasbourg facilitated an investment into a new facility to meet the demand for container transshipment experienced in the area.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1033-new-container-terminal-for-strasbourg-inland-port-.html>

Personnel News

CROKOMBI

October



Mario Šarić was appointed new CEO of CROKOMBI d.o.o, the Croatian member company of UIRR, thus succeeding to Slavko Mamic. Mr Šarić, who is a mechanical engineer and holder of a Master of Science in Economics, has held several top management positions in the transportation sector, among others with AGIT d.o.o. a subsidiary of HZ Cargo.

UIRR

October



Mateusz Nowak was appointed Digital Project Officer at UIRR. Mr Nowak, successor to Barbara Bento as the colleague responsible for administration of the ILU-Code, not only will be in charge of ILU-Code related matters but is expected to contribute to the digitalization efforts of UIRR. Mateusz holds a degree in marketing and advertising, speaks four languages and has six years of digital work experience.

Members' News

ADRIAKOMBI

September 2018

Leaflet for Dangerous Goods in Combined Transport for truck drivers, Terminal staff, clients of Adria kombi & UIRR Partners

Click: <http://www.adriakombi.si/news/article/28>

AMBERRAIL

2018

New intermodal connection to Turkey.

Click: <http://amberrail.com/new-intermodal-connection-to-turkey/>

BALTIC RAIL

September 2018

Excellent development

Click: <http://www.balticrail.com/news.html>

CARGOBEAMER

August 2018

CargoBeamer in Calais – a milestone

Click: <https://www.cargobeamer.eu/CargoBeamer-in-Calais-A-milestone-on-the-road-towards-greater-environmental-protection-in-goods-transportation-within-Europe-852772.html>

HUPAC

October 2018

All terminals: new section of the Hupac website

Click: <http://www.hupac.com/EN/All-terminals-new-section-of-the-Hupac-website-a5ee3100>

JOHN G RUSSELL

August 2018

Fully integrated e-fulfilment service to online retailers

Click: <http://www.johngrussell.co.uk/news/e-fulfilment/>

KOMBIVERKEHR

October 2018

Kombiverkehr offers electronic invoicing

Click: https://www.kombiverkehr.de/en/service/customers/news/:Kombiverkehr_offers_electronic_invoicing

Key Dates & Events

8 November 2018, Vienna	CombiNet Tagung conference
8 November 2018, Brussels	T&E/Fraunhofer: Decarbonising Freight Conference
14 November 2018, Brussels	CLECAT Rail Institute Meeting
14-15 November 2018, Istanbul	Logitrans Expo and Conference
15 November 2018, Berlin	SGKV Terminal Tag Conference
15 November 2018, Madrid	F&L Annual Event
20 November 2018, Brussels	ELP event on EurAsian Landbridge
29 November 2018, Düsseldorf	ECTA Annual Meeting
29 November 2018, Brussels	FREPORT Conference
6 December 2018, Vienna	EU Commission – RNE Rail Freight Day
13 December 2018, Brussels	Rail Market Monitoring Scheme Meeting
17 December 2018, Brussels	Multimodal Sustainable Transport: internalization of externalities
20 February 2019, Brussels	CER-UNIFE European Railway Awards



INTERNATIONAL UNION
FOR ROAD-RAIL
COMBINED TRANSPORT

UIRR s.c.r.l.

Address: 31 rue Montoyer
B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: +32 2 548 78 90

Fax: +32 2 512 63 93

E-mail: news@uirr.com

Internet: www.uirr.com

Editor: Ákos Érsek, UIRR