



## A historic rebound

Combined Transport delivered historic growth of +26,43% during the second quarter of 2021, to rebound from the basis of the same period of 2020, which was the first quarter of pandemic-related lockdowns in Europe. The record high price of oil contributed to Combined Transport retaining the new business gained during the pandemic period. The Sentiment Index for the next 12 months remains 'positive' reflecting a continued confidence in the rebound from the pandemic.

The growth of Combined Transport during the first half of 2021 is a continuation of the 6,77% expansion realised by the sector in 2020.

Besides the issuance of the UIRR Report 2020-21, UIRR's General Assembly adopted a new vision and mission for the association to reflect on the decarbonisation challenge presented in the European Green Deal:

- UIRR will advance the development and actively promote competitive Zero-Carbon Emission Combined Transport for Europe.

Combined Transport is reported by customers to save up to 65-70% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions compared to the corresponding unimodal road-only transport chain. Zero-Carbon Emission Combined Transport is based entirely on existing and proven technologies, which enable the direct transformation of renewable electricity into transport performance. Should Combined Transport be enabled to grow 7-8% yearly, it could deliver the decarbonisation expected under the European Climate Law of longer distance surface freight transport by 2030 and 2050.

Low risk investments would need to be continued into the infrastructure, while further improvements to railway governance and operations will be necessary, and new temporary compensatory measures introduced – until a level regulatory playing field is achieved – to reinforce the growth path pursued by European Combined Transport. The Fit for 55 Package, unveiled by the European Commission on 14 July, is a first step in the right direction.

Intercontinental intermodal rail services continued to expand as well, following up on a record setting year in 2020, which saw a 31% growth to rail-based transport between Europe and Asia. Besides investments in Russia and China, Europe has stepped up by several gateway terminal construction projects to deliver on the market potential of intercontinental intermodal rail transport.

The Joint Network Secretariat (JNS) completed its work after the unfortunate safety incident that occurred on the Great Belt Bridge in January this year, and by defining certain additional temporary requirements, it enabled again the transport of trailers by Combined Transport through Denmark.

As of 1 July, UIRR welcomed RAIL HUB TRANSYLVANIA of Romania as a Terminal Member, while CAMCO TECHNOLOGIES became a new terminal technology partner of the association.

Ralf-Charley Schultze – President



**Journée du Transport Combiné**

Paris, 21 October 2021



**The Annual Conference of the  
Combined Transport Sector**

Online conference, 30 November 2021

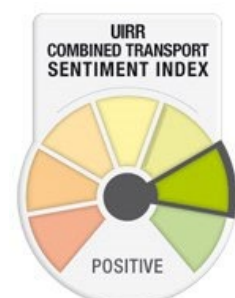
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### UIRR Quarterly CT Performance Gauge



### Business outlook for the 12 months between 1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022



## Quality Performance of Rail Freight

### 835-meter-long freight trains between Germany and Sweden

May 2021

The train of 835m ran between Maschen in Germany and Malmö, Sweden and allowed 55 45ft loading units on a train of 2300 tonnes propelled by a single electric locomotive at 120km/h.

[Link: http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1910-first-835-metre-long-train-from-germany-arrived-in-sweden.html](http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1910-first-835-metre-long-train-from-germany-arrived-in-sweden.html)

### Belgium and Europe pledge doubling of rail freight's market share

May 2021

EU Transport Commissioner Adina-loana Valean and Belgium's Mobility Minister Georges Gilkinet visited Athus Container Terminal and made the announcement.

[Link: http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1898-belgium-and-europe-doubling-rail-freight-volume-by-2050.html](http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1898-belgium-and-europe-doubling-rail-freight-volume-by-2050.html)

### 9<sup>th</sup> EU Rail Market Monitoring Report of IRG-Rail

June 2021

Railway Regulators issued their latest report with a special focus on the challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic.

[Link: http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1911-9th-irg-rail-market-monitoring-report.html](http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1911-9th-irg-rail-market-monitoring-report.html)

### Capacity development along the Rhine-Alpine Rail Freight Corridor

June 2021

Management of the Rhine-Alpine Rail Freight Corridor explains its vision of how to increase the train paths available.

[Link: http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1923-how-can-capacity-be-improved-on-the-rhine-alpine-corridor.html](http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1923-how-can-capacity-be-improved-on-the-rhine-alpine-corridor.html)

### Loading gauge upgrade to P400 on the Bologna-Padua line

June 2021

RFI completed the upgrade of the loading gauge of the Bologna-Padua line to P400, enabling the transport of trailers in pocket wagons by intermodal trains.

[Link: http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1941-important-loading-gauge-upgrade-in-italy.html](http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1941-important-loading-gauge-upgrade-in-italy.html)

### Belarus transit of EU produced goods comes under threat

July 2021

Political tensions between the government of Belarus and the European Union have led to the threat of banning EU products to pass through Belarus territory by President Lukashenko.

[Link: http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1954-belarus-wants-to-ban-the-transit-of-eu-products-heading-to-china.html](http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1954-belarus-wants-to-ban-the-transit-of-eu-products-heading-to-china.html)

## Fair, Mode-neutral Regulatory Framework

### IANA and UIRR greet the World Climate Summit

April 2021

Intermodal associations of North America and Europe emphasised the central role that intermodal transport must play in the decarbonisation of the global economy.

[Link: 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/1838-iana-and-uirr-highlight-intermodals-benefits-in-advance-of-world-climate-summit.html)

### Germany waives track access charges for freight trains

April 2021

The German government decided to waive the track access charges for freight trains until the end of 2021 to compensate the sector for the difficulties it suffered during the pandemic.

[Link: http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1840-bmvi-will-trassenpreise-befristet-senken.html](http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1840-bmvi-will-trassenpreise-befristet-senken.html)

### Compromise reached on Eurovignette Directive amendment

May-June 2021

The European legislators agreed a compromise concerning the amendment of the Eurovignette Directive that allows a complete waiver of tolls for alternative propulsions. The compromise is yet to be endorsed by the European Parliament plenary.

[Link: http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2021/mediacentre/1889-joint-statement-decarbonisation-of-eu-transport-.html](http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2021/mediacentre/1889-joint-statement-decarbonisation-of-eu-transport-.html)

### Track access charging under review in The Netherlands

June 2021

Level playing field requirements between the different modes of transport are motivating a comprehensive review of track access charges in The Netherlands, which are unexplainably higher than those in Germany.

[Link: http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1922-dutch-track-access-charges-under-the-microscope-again.html](http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1922-dutch-track-access-charges-under-the-microscope-again.html)

## Fit for 55 Package announced by the European Commission

July 2021

Combined Transport is the low-risk choice for European policy- and decisionmakers if looking for a solution that is effective and proven – based on known technologies – to achieve the decarbonisation objectives of the European Union in surface freight transport.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2021/mediacentre/1956-press-release-fit-for-55-ct-is-the-low-hanging-fruit-.html>

*Enhancement of Intermodal Transport*

## Trailer transport by rail reinstated in Denmark

April 2021

The ERA Joint Network Secretariat (JNS) completed its urgent procedure and formulated the provisional requirements to recommence trailer transport by intermodal rail through Denmark.

Links: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1874-era-jns-procedure-incident-on-the-great-belt-bridge-of-13012021-closed-.html>

## Combined Transport closed successful year in 2020

May 2021

The General Assembly of members adopted the UIRR Report 2020-21 and thereby formally closed European Combined Transport's business year which delivered a growth of 6,77% in 2020.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/component/downloads/downloads/1457.html>

## Truck2Train Project launched in Germany

June 2021

A project to identify and to propose ways of removing obstacles to modal shift has been launched, which will be critical to achieve the doubling of rail freight's market share.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1927-truck2train.html>

## Medyka to be turned into 'second Malaszewicze'

June 2021

The Medyka transshipment area on the Polish-Ukrainian border should be turned into an intermodal gateway to Europe like Malaszewicze.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1943-pkp-cargo-wants-to-turn-medyka-into-new-malaszewicze-.html>

## 65% CO<sub>2</sub> saving reported by users of Combined Transport

July 2021

Combined Transport users report saving 65% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions compared to unimodal road-only transport covering long distance relations.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1951-transport-by-rail-saves-65-co2-emissions.html>

## Russia opens for new commodities on Trans-Eurasia rail

July 2021

Russia continues the easing of restrictions on the types of EU cargo eligible to transit the country by means of intermodal rail. The rail transit process has also been further enhanced.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1953-russia-opens-more-opportunities-for-transit-shipments-of-eu-sanctioned-goods.html>

## Rail Facilities Portal webinar

July 2021

RNE and UIRR, contracted by the European Commission to manage the [www.railfacilitiesportal.eu](http://www.railfacilitiesportal.eu) website have successfully conducted the first customer webinar with over 100 participants, including several regulatory bodies.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1955-successful-webinar-on-rail-facilities-portal.html>

## COMBINE Project final conference

July 2021

The COMBINE Project, which aimed at promoting Combined Transport in the Baltic Sea Region has successfully held its final conference, where the achievements of the project were introduced.

Links: <http://www.uirr.com/en/component/content/article/53-homepage-banners/75-combine-emma-baltic-sea-region-future-forerunner-in-sustainable-transport.html>  
- <http://www.uirr.com/en/projects/ongoing/item/25-combine-34-ongoing.html>

## Personnel News

KTL

April 2021



**Harald Schlegel** succeeded Ralf Dahlinger as Managing Director of KTL, while Mr Dahlinger returned to BASF SE. Harald Schlegel has been working for over 25 years at BASF, including as a project leader for the initial set up of the intermodal terminal (now operated by KTL) in Ludwigshafen. Mr Schlegel also worked for 4 years in France being responsible for the fully automated tank container storage yard (TCL) within BASF, storing the new BASF class tank containers (BTC) with a payload of up to 66t. The first industrial autonomous driving for transport of the BTCs from the TCL to the BASF loadings stations has also been introduced under this project.

## Members' News

**AMBROGIO**

June 2021

New investment: 100 new containers

Click: <https://ambrogiointermodal.com/en/news/100-brand-new-box-containers/>

**CARGOBEAMER**

July 2021

CargoBeamer inaugurates terminal in Calais, France

Click: <https://www.cargobeamer.com/news/cargobeamer-opens-terminal-in-calais.html>

**FELB**

June 2021

FELB implements usage of smart Container 2.0

Click: <https://www.felb.world/felb-implements-usage-of-smart-container2-0/>

**HUPAC**

May 2021

Annual Report 2020 is online

Click: <https://www.hupac.ch/Annual-Report>

**INTERPORTO BOLOGNA**

July 2021

50-year anniversary of the terminal

Click: <https://www.interporto.it/un-concerto-per-celebrare-i-50-anni-di-interporto-bologna-spa-a741>

**METRANS**

July 2021

Metrans celebrates 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the company

Click: <https://metrans.eu/metrans-newsletter-30th-anniversary/>

**RALPIN**

July 2021

20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Freiburg-Novara rolling motorway

Click: <https://ralpin.com/media/>

**SAMSKIP**

June 2021

Samskip offsets carbon footprint through joining Ecobal global initiative

Click: <https://www.samskip.com/news/samskip-supports-forest-revitalisation-and-offsets-carbon-footprint-through-ecobal-initiative/>

## Key Dates & Events

31 August 2021, online	UIRR Nordic Seminar
13-15 September 2021, Paris	SITL Exhibition and Conference
13-15 September 2021, online	49 <sup>th</sup> European Transport Conference
14-15 September 2021, Moscow/online	30 <sup>th</sup> CCTT Plenary Meeting
23 September 2021, Brussels	ERFA Annual Event
30 September 2021, Zaragoza/online	Jornada Intermodal
5 October 2021, Bettembourg	Connecting Europe Express – freight stop
6 October 2021, London	RFG Rail Freight Conference
7 October 2021, Essen	BME/VDV Railway Congress
14 October 2021, online	UIC-FIATA-UIRR Marketplace Seminar
14-15 October 2021, Budapest	MLSZKSZ CEE Intermodal Conference
21 October 2021, Paris	GNTC's Journée du Transport Combiné
28-29 October 2021, Bonn	IBS Conference
4 November 2021, Berlin	SGKV Terminaltag
16 November 2021, Brussels	Ferrmed Conference
17-19 November 2021, Geneva	F&L Conference
30 November 2021, online	European Intermodal Summit 2021



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