



## Growth slows as clouds gather

Combined Transport grew by 5,14% during the first quarter of 2022, which is slower than the pace achieved during 2021. The war in Ukraine has impacted the European economy in unforeseeable ways since February. The UIRR Sentiment Index for the coming 12-month period has been downgraded to 'slightly positive', as the speculation is that the economic disturbance caused by the war may be partially counterbalanced by a reinvigorated modal shift due to Combined Transport's superior energy efficiency – useful in Europe's decoupling from imported oil and gas from Russia.

2022 began with exploring the EU-level actions to be taken to address the traffic disturbances caused by extensive works on the railway network. The UIRR Board conducted a high-level exchange with the senior management of DG MOVE. The Commission will study the proposed extension of the RNE contingency handbook to the management of works-related disruptions – temporary capacity restrictions (TCRs). The EU Energy Price Toolbox, which contains the measures that Member States can use in case of extreme price fluctuations, was recommended to counter the traction electricity price increases. The intermodal sector continues to be concerned about the works-related deterioration of punctuality and the lack of train paths for freight trains.

The transport sector's attention was directed to the Commission proposal to amend the TEN-T Regulation, which was published just before Christmas of last year. The French presidency launched the dossier in the Council Working Group with unusual speed, even before the European Parliament could name its rapporteurs. UIRR issued two position papers: one detailing the enhancements proposed by the intermodal sector, while the other to articulate support for the infrastructure measures proposed by the Commission. The TEN-T Regulation amendment will govern the future of transport infrastructure for at least the next decade, therefore it should facilitate the changes needed to effectively decarbonise transportation, while boosting its energy efficiency needed to improve Europe's self-reliance in energy.

Sanctions imposed on Russia as well as partially on its partner Belarus, due to the invasion of Ukraine, caused a major disruption in intercontinental intermodal rail freight. The COVID-19 outbreaks in China have an additional negative effect of these services. The ceremonial opening of the new East-West Gate megaterminal on the Hungarian-Ukrainian border also had to be postponed.

The CT for Europe campaign ([www.CT4EU.eu](http://www.CT4EU.eu)) has intensified its activities from the beginning of the year. CT4EU aims to highlight the advantages of door-to-door Combined Transport, which range from a pro-rata energy efficiency – compared to EURO6 trucks – of up to 70% and a carbon footprint, which is up to 90% smaller at the same time. Combined Transport is also an efficient employer, whereby it offers a relatively limited number of high value-added jobs that are far superior in their work/life balance – especially, when compared to a long-distance truck driver.

PCC Intermodal of Poland has been inaugurated as the latest CT Operator member of UIRR. New Partners are Eurowagon, Menlo79 and Transporeon, while UIRR's new MoU Peers include Club Feroviar, IGTL and Shift 2030.

Ralf-Charley Schultze – President

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### UIRR Quarterly CT Performance Gauge



### Business outlook for the 12 months between 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023



### Zero-Carbon Combined Transport Event

Brussels, 19 May 2022  
14h30 - 16h30

### #ConnectingEurope Days >>>

LYON > 28-30 JUNE 2022



an EU Commission and Council  
Presidency joint event

## Quality Performance of Rail Freight

### 30% of intermodal trains are not granted their requested paths

January 2022

Only 70% of train path applications for intermodal trains were granted as requested by SNCF Réseau for 2022. Timetables are frequently modified on short notice, which disrupts pre-announced schedules and previously coordinated terminal operations.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2183-le-gntc-tire-la-sonnette-dalarme-30-des-trains-de-tc-en-retard.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2183-le-gntc-tire-la-sonnette-dalarme-30-des-trains-de-tc-en-retard.html)

### Traction electricity price increase threatens reverse modal shift

February 2022

German policymakers have been warned that the near tripling of traction electricity prices charged to railway undertakings threatens to unravel the modal shift results of the past years.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2168-keep-going-dont-shift-back-weitermachen-nicht-wechseln.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2168-keep-going-dont-shift-back-weitermachen-nicht-wechseln.html)

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

April 2022

Railway Regulators issued their latest report with 2020 data collected from 31 European countries.

[Link: https://irg-rail.eu/irg/news/press-release/362,Tenth-Annual-Market-Monitoring-Report-published.html](https://irg-rail.eu/irg/news/press-release/362,Tenth-Annual-Market-Monitoring-Report-published.html)

### EU rail freight lost €4 billion due to the pandemic

February 2022

EU railway association's have gathered the losses of freight railway undertakings during 2020-21 to have amounted to €4 billion.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2184-covid-impact-tracker-rail-freight-lost-4-billion-in-2021.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2184-covid-impact-tracker-rail-freight-lost-4-billion-in-2021.html)

### SCANMED RFC: cost increase of rail freight to exceed trucking

January 2022

Rail freight is getting more expensive than its trucking alternative in the 6 EU Member States connected by the SCANMED Rail Freight Corridor: Austria, Denmark, Germany, Italy and Sweden.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2148-rising-costs-rail-freight-could-lose-competitiveness-and-shrink.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2148-rising-costs-rail-freight-could-lose-competitiveness-and-shrink.html)

### Italy and Switzerland cooperate to build 4m corridor

February 2022

Italy and Switzerland agreed on a plan of action for the expansion of the Lötschberg-Simplon corridor to enable cross-border intermodal transport with a height of 4 metres.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2179-this-is-how-switzerland-supports-the-4-metre-corridor-to-milan.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2179-this-is-how-switzerland-supports-the-4-metre-corridor-to-milan.html)

### Belgium commits fresh €357 million to freight-specific infra projects

February 2022

The Belgian government is making another 357 million euros available for the modernisation of the railway network, a fund that primarily serves to support rail freight transport.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2180-belgium-grants-additional-357-million-for-rail-mostly-benefitting-freight.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2180-belgium-grants-additional-357-million-for-rail-mostly-benefitting-freight.html)

### Record rail freight market share on Transalpine relations

March 2022

Last year, rail's share of overall transalpine freight reached 74,9%, its highest level for 30 years.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2224-transalpine-freight-the-highest-rail-share-for-30-years.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2224-transalpine-freight-the-highest-rail-share-for-30-years.html)

### Netherlands sets record rail freight performance in 2021

February 2022

According to ProRail, 2021 is "the busiest year ever measured when it comes to the transport of goods by rail".

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2187-the-netherlands-2021-was-the-busiest-year-ever.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2187-the-netherlands-2021-was-the-busiest-year-ever.html)

### LINEAS introduces traction electricity surcharge

March 2022

Unable to absorb any further the increases of traction electricity prices, LINEAS announced the introduction of a surcharge as of April 2022.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2225-lineas-applies-energy-surcharge-we-can-no-longer-absorb-the-high-rates.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2225-lineas-applies-energy-surcharge-we-can-no-longer-absorb-the-high-rates.html)

## *Fair, Mode-neutral Regulatory Framework*

### **Freight Transport Masterplan identifies needs of intermodal rail**

March 2022

Seven fields of action have been identified in the Austrian government's plan: (1) Market-promoting transport policy framework; (2) Capacity and quality assurance in rail and terminal infrastructure; (3) Development of HUB terminals; (4) Establishment of a national CT network; (5) Digitization and "industrialization" of CT; (6) Emission-free intermodal transport chain; (7) Training, qualification, motivation.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2223-freight-transport-master-plan-7-identified-fields-of-action.html>

### **Germany: harmful subsidies cause GHG rise in freight transport**

March 2022

The German transport sector failed to meet its emission targets for 2021, emitting greenhouse gases 1,2 per cent more than 2020 due to harmful state aid that reduces the costs of unsustainable trucking.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2199-increase-of-transport-emissions-in-germany-alarming-for-climate-targets.html>

## *Enhancement of Intermodal Transport*

### **Poland sets historic intermodal rail record in 2021**

March 2022

In 2021, intermodal rail transported 26.5 million tons of cargo – a historic record in Poland, though the growth dynamics was somewhat lower than in previous years.

Links: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2195-2021-intermodal-transport-set-a-historic-record-in-poland.html>

### **Seacontainer congestion predicted in Europe for Q2.2022**

February 2022

Freight forwarders should prepare in the second quarter for further obstacles to the transport of goods in containers by sea, which will bring hinterland transport capacities under stress too.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2172-european-container-port-congestion-predicted-for-spring-2022-.html>

### **Girteka doubles its intermodal transport performance in 2021**

February 2022

Girteka Logistics, a traditionally road and truck logistics company, sees its rail freight division growing with the company's intermodal activity doubling during 2021 compared to 2020.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2186-girteka-logistics-rail-freight-division-doubling-its-numbers.html>

### **Bavaria wants higher tolls on the Brenner to increase rail's share**

February 2022

Bavaria's Prime Minister Markus Söder wants a revolution on the Brenner Pass. He not only calls for higher truck tolls, but also for more goods to be shifted to rail.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2174-2022-02-24-10-05-28.html>

### **Commission transshipment technology study published**

April 2022

The study titled "Comparative evaluation of transshipment technologies for intermodal transport and their cost" prepared by PriceWaterhouseCoopers and KombiConsult has been published.

Link: <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/d37790ea-b6ef-11ec-b6f4-01aa75ed71a1>

### **BDI calls for more Combined Transport in position paper**

April 2022

BDI - Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie e.V., the Federal Association of the German industry, issued a position paper calling for more Combined Transport to decarbonise freight transportation.

Link: <https://bdi.eu/publikation/news/Klimariese-in-Ketten-Der-Kombinierte-Verkehr-Strasse-Schiene/>

### **North America: intermodal volumes in Q1.2022 remain below 2021**

April 2022

IANA, the Intermodal Association of North America, has published statistics that indicate that intermodal freight transport in Q1.2022 has remained below the same period of a year earlier.

Link: <https://intermodal.org/data-statistics/intermodal-volume-analyzer>

## Personnel News

**ADRIA KOMBI**  
January 2022



**Janez Merlak** has been named Managing Director of Adria Kombi following the retirement of Rok Svetek. Mr Merlak has been Chief Operating Officer of the company since 2006. He worked as Adria Kombi's Project Manager during the preceding decade.

**CARGOBEAMER**  
February 2022



**Nicolas Albrecht** has been appointed CEO of CargoBeamer, while co-founder Dr. Hans-Jürgen Weidemann continues as Chief Technology Officer (CTO). Mr Albrecht is in charge of the accelerated growth of the company, based on the acquisition of rolling stock and the construction of new terminals, funded by a capital increase coming from new investors that include Swiss and US family offices as well as Duisport as a strategic investor. For additional management team changes see: <https://www.cargobeamer.com/news/CargoBeamer-names-Boris-Timm-as-COO-and-strengthens-management-with-Tim-Krasowka-and-Mario-Gloeckner.html>

**LANFER**  
January 2022



**Helen de Wachter** has been elected as Managing Director of Lanfer Logistics in Belgium. Ms Wachter has worked in senior management positions at BASF and the Port of Antwerp since 2008. In the first phase of her career, Ms Wachter worked as a consultant with KPMG and the Flanders Institute for Logistics. The terminal subsidiary of Lanfer is a member of UIRR.

**LINEAS**  
February 2022



**Bernard Gustin** joined Lineas as Executive Chairman. He has more than 30 years of experience in leadership roles at Procter & Gamble, Arthur D. Little and Brussels Airlines NV/SA. He has also served on the Boards of Lufthansa AG, Germanwings AG, Star Alliance and chaired the Association of European Airlines.

## Members' News

**DUSS**  
March 2022

DUSS has been selected as one of Germany's top training employers  
Click: [https://www1.deutschebahn.com/ecm2-duss/news\\_uebersicht/DEUTSCHLAND-TEST-und-FOCUS-MONEY-DUSS-zaehlt-erneut-zu-den-TOP-Ausbildungsbetrieben-Deutschlands-7347924?contentId=714944](https://www1.deutschebahn.com/ecm2-duss/news_uebersicht/DEUTSCHLAND-TEST-und-FOCUS-MONEY-DUSS-zaehlt-erneut-zu-den-TOP-Ausbildungsbetrieben-Deutschlands-7347924?contentId=714944)

**HUPAC**  
January 2022

Hupac moved 1,1 million trucks and saved 15 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2021 – constituting 10,7% growth over the preceding year  
Click: <https://www.hupac.com/EN/Hupac-moves-11-million-trucks-and-saves-15-million-tonnes-of-CO2-adoc8c00>

**KOMBIVERKEHR**  
February 2022

Kombiverkehr growth exceeded 9% and the resilience of the network improved in 2021  
Click: [https://www.kombiverkehr.de/en/presse/Press\\_Releases/More\\_than\\_nine\\_per\\_cent\\_growth\\_resilience\\_in\\_the\\_network](https://www.kombiverkehr.de/en/presse/Press_Releases/More_than_nine_per_cent_growth_resilience_in_the_network)

**METRANS**  
February 2022

Metrans celebrates 30th anniversary of the company's founding  
Click: <https://metrans.eu/30th-anniversary-of-an-important-milestone/>

**PCC INTERMODAL**  
March 2022

Services to/from Brest (Belarus) have been suspended with immediate effect  
Click: <https://www.pccintermodal.pl/en/35209/>

## Key Dates & Events

11-13 May, Luxembourg	F&L event
12-13 May, Lugano	Hupac Intermodal Forum
18-20 May, Leipzig	ITF Summit
19 May, Brussels	UIRR General Assembly
19 May, Brussels	CT4EU event on Zero-Carbon Combined Transport
24-25 May, Prien	LKZ Symposium on Innovative Logistics
30 May - 1 June, Berlin	11th International Railway Summit & UIC Sustainable Railway Awards
23-24 June, Vienna	IBS Kongress
28-30 June, Lyon	Connecting Europe Days



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