



Problems mount - growth comes to halt

European Combined Transport's performance shrank by 0,46% in the second quarter of 2022 compared to the same period a year earlier. With this, six quarters of post-COVID recovery came to an end. The UIRR Sentiment Index has further deteriorated to 'neutral' as intermodal decisionmakers fail to see how the operational disturbances caused by the increasing number of uncoordinated and mismanaged works on the rail infrastructure and the increasingly unreliable maritime transport flows can be overcome.

Market demand for Combined Transport remains dynamic as an increasing number of economic actors are exploring the replacement of road-only transport with intermodal transport. However, significant operational issues are undermining the quality performance of Combined Transport operations causing substantial delays, losses of capacity and doubts about reliability. Combined Transport operators are told to "cope with the situation" as the regulatory framework in most Member States does not allow for effective crisis management. Without effective intervention the currently experienced disturbances will likely prevail for several years. Therefore, UIRR is delivering the message that a new European capacity- and traffic management framework must be rapidly adapted to enable the recovery from the operational slump.

The historic record growth of 11% that Combined Transport experienced in 2021 will likely not be repeated this year. Decisive market preference has been well illustrated by the recently published unequivocal position paper by the German Industry Federation BDI, calling for more Combined Transport. ECTA, the European Chemical Transport Association, has echoed the sentiment while delivering a report that showed reverse modal shift in this very important market segment to have taken place in 2021 – since some chemical shippers were forced to transfer quantities back to trucks.

Substantial part of the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) funds are planned to be used to improve the rail infrastructure, which together with the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) moneys going for the same is to be fundamentally greeted. However, rail freight market share will be lost, not won, if the European Commission does not succeed in introducing a new regime of train path allocation and traffic management with a focus on the management of temporary capacity restrictions related to works. A socio-economic cost-benefit analysis should decide which train gets a bypass train path in the regions impacted by works-related capacity limitations. A short-term solution must be invented.

The European intermodal sector has been conducting the Combined Transport for Europe (CT4EU) campaign since November 2021. The second CT4EU study concerning the feasibility and efficiency of zero-carbon door-to-door Combined Transport (ZCCT) was unveiled on 19 May after the UIRR General Assembly. The study found that ZCCT is not only feasible using technologies and products in the market already today, but that it is the most efficient means to decarbonise inland freight logistics.

The third and final CT4EU study will be the roadmap to implement ZCCT on the scale that corresponds to the EU aim of doubling the market share of rail freight by 2050. The ZCCT Roadmap will be published during the European Intermodal Summit 2022 on 1 December.

Ralf-Charley Schultze – President



International Rail Forum

5-7 October 2022



European Intermodal Summit
- 2022 edition

1 December 2022

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UIRR Quarterly CT Performance Gauge



Business outlook
for the 12 months between

1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023



Performance of Rail Freight

Netherlands must invest to enable 740m train length

April 2022

More budget needed for investments in upgrading the railway infrastructure in the Netherlands in order to (1) to transport cargo, especially in containers and trailers, by rail more efficiently, (2) to better use existing railway capacity and (3) to comply with the EU railway infrastructure regulation for 740 meters train length.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2283-a-lot-of-money-and-decisiveness-needed-for-track-that-is-suitable-for-740-meters-train-length.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2283-a-lot-of-money-and-decisiveness-needed-for-track-that-is-suitable-for-740-meters-train-length.html)

Dutch track access charge increase causes outrage

June 2022

Rail carriers in the Netherlands have not been offered compensation by the government for the 12% increase of track access charges, nor for the cost of the ERTMS transition.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2246-dutch-rail-freight-carriers-outraged-over-lack-of-government-support.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2246-dutch-rail-freight-carriers-outraged-over-lack-of-government-support.html)

French rail freight sector needs support to counter energy crisis

April 2022

Unlike the road haulage industry, the rail freight sector is being excluded from state aid to help them through the energy crisis, which tilts the competitive balance.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2210-french-rail-sector-feels-forgotten-in-energy-crisis-needs-55-million-euros.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2210-french-rail-sector-feels-forgotten-in-energy-crisis-needs-55-million-euros.html)

Rail freight circumvents Hungary due to traction electricity price

May 2022

Previous measures to improve the competitiveness of Hungarian rail freight transport could be nullified if the state does not quickly do something to compensate for runaway traction energy prices.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2257-it-is-cheaper-to-ride-on-foreign-rails.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2257-it-is-cheaper-to-ride-on-foreign-rails.html)

Germany: major difficulties for freight trains due to works

May 2022

A new wave of construction works on the German railway network has started, which results in track capacity restrictions of 25-30%. The progress of freight trains has been significantly impacted.

[Links: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2253-more-disruptions-to-come-on-german-railway-network.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2253-more-disruptions-to-come-on-german-railway-network.html)
<https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2248-major-difficulties-in-the-movement-of-intermodal-trains-in-germany.html>

Federal Government to tighten control over Deutsche Bahn

June 2022

The Federal Ministry of Transport (BMDV) will tie Deutsche Bahn closer to itself through the "Deutsche Bahn Steering Group" that will be created on 1 July, bringing "stronger control by the federal government" and regular reporting to the minister.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2298-neue-steuerungsgruppe-deutsche-bahn-neue-infra-gesellschaft-kommt.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2298-neue-steuerungsgruppe-deutsche-bahn-neue-infra-gesellschaft-kommt.html)

Fair, Mode-neutral Regulatory Framework

Interoperability is a duty beyond the rail sector

April 2022

Rail freight is key to make land transport sector environmentally friendly and interoperability is vital to achieving this.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2275-interoperability-a-duty-beyond-rail.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2275-interoperability-a-duty-beyond-rail.html)

600.000 truck drivers are missing across Europe

April 2022

The war in Ukraine exacerbated the truck driver shortage in Europe, which now means that Combined Transport road legs are also impacted. CT over long distances can help reduce the need for long-distance truck drivers – who could be transferred to intermodal trucking instead.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2279-freight-transport-by-train-is-slowly-waking-up.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2279-freight-transport-by-train-is-slowly-waking-up.html)

CO₂-free transport of goods is possible

May 2022

Study shows that CO₂-free transport of goods is possible already today if electric freight trains are combined with electric transhipment and (battery) electric trucks.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2289-co2-free-transport-of-goods-study-combined-transport-with-e-trucks.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2289-co2-free-transport-of-goods-study-combined-transport-with-e-trucks.html)

European Parliament votes to extend ETS to transportation

June 2022

The EU Parliament's plenary voted in favour of revising the EU Emissions Trading System. This will mean that the ETS should include emissions from all transport modes, while its revenues will be distributed primarily to the greener and more efficient modes.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2299-eu-parliament-votes-for-ets-revision-with-direct-benefits-for-rail.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2299-eu-parliament-votes-for-ets-revision-with-direct-benefits-for-rail.html)

Enhancement of Intermodal Transport

Intermodal to make Europe less dependent on imported fuel

April 2022

One intermodal freight train saves 4 times more CO₂ than a high-speed passenger train. However, freight rail is yet to be recognised as an obvious solution to reduce Europe's dependence on fossil fuels.

[Links: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2263-hjortsjarnvagarnumassivt-statsstod-till-godstagen.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2263-hjortsjarnvagarnumassivt-statsstod-till-godstagen.html)

German regulation to promote development of intermodal terminals

April 2022

In order to shift more freight traffic from road to rail, the federal government has been promoting the construction and expansion of intermodal transhipment facilities of non-state-owned companies.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2284-directive-on-the-promotion-of-combined-transport-transhipment-facilities.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2284-directive-on-the-promotion-of-combined-transport-transhipment-facilities.html)

Mandate of modal shift promotion agency renewed in Flanders

May 2022

Multimodaal.Vlaanderen was founded in 2017 with the mission to initiate the mental shift for companies to choose the right mode of transport for each freight transport operation. This mission has extended for 5 years after a positive evaluation.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2278-flemish-government-gives-green-light-for-five-year-extension-multimodaalvlaanderen.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2278-flemish-government-gives-green-light-for-five-year-extension-multimodaalvlaanderen.html)

European Combined Transport grows at record pace in 2021

May 2022

Historic high-performance levels were achieved in Europe as Combined Transport tonne-kilometres grew by almost 11% in 2021, while the number of consignments carried by 8,15%, following the +7% and +1% achieved respectively a year earlier.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2022/mediacentre/2237-press-release-eu-combined-transport-in-2021-grew-by-almost-11.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2022/mediacentre/2237-press-release-eu-combined-transport-in-2021-grew-by-almost-11.html)

DPD transfers parcels to trains from trucks

June 2022

Following the example of competitor Deutsche Post, DPD launched an initiative to transport parcels using intermodal rail. The CO₂ emissions of the DPD project are more than 80% lower when transporting in a container than when using a truck.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2255-rail-instead-of-trucks-dpd-launches-parcel-transport-project.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2255-rail-instead-of-trucks-dpd-launches-parcel-transport-project.html)

European chemical transporters report reverse modal shift in 2021

June 2022

ECTA, the European Chemical Transport Association, has been recommending Combined Transport to its members, however due to a deterioration of intermodal rail performance, the share of rail in chemical transport declined for the first time in a decade in 2021.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2297-back-to-reality-in-intermodal-transport-.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2297-back-to-reality-in-intermodal-transport-.html)

Poland experiences increased combined transport performance

July 2022

Intermodal rail freight performance grew by over 11% during the first quarter of 2022 in Poland and reached 466,000 consignments.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2308-in-the-first-quarter-intermodal-transport-in-poland-increased.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2308-in-the-first-quarter-intermodal-transport-in-poland-increased.html)

North American intermodal volumes in H1.2022

July 2022

AAR, the American Association of Railroads, reported a significant 6% decline in the number of intermodal consignments transported by rail, which translated to a performance of fewer than 7,4 million units during the first 28 weeks of 2022.

[Link: https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2313-rail-traffic-for-the-week-ending-july-16-2022.html](https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2313-rail-traffic-for-the-week-ending-july-16-2022.html)

Personnel News

HUPAC

April 2022



Benedetta Masciari joined the Hupac Group as the new CFO on 1 April 2022. She replaces Angelo Pirro, who is leaving the company at the end of May after a transition period. Benedetta Masciari was previously CFO at Argor-Heraeus in Mendrisio/TI, where she was in charge of Finance, IT and Supply Chain. Masciari has a broad range of expertise in finance and controlling as well as an MBA.

CARGOBEAMER

April 2022



After holding several positions in the European and American aviation industry, **Alexander Kornblum** led the launch of a nationwide long-distance bus network in the United States as Head of Pricing and Yield Management at Flix from 2018 to 2020. As Senior Program Manager and Head of EU Rail, he was most recently responsible for developing European rail transport network of Amazon. With over ten years of experience in both globally operating transport groups and high-growth scale-ups, he brings in-depth knowledge of fast scaling, sales, pricing, and capacity management to CargoBeamer.

FELB

June 2022



The intermodal operator FELB – Far East Land Bridge is reorganising its management team. With immediate effect, **Alexander Redkin** (47) will take over the position of Chief Operating Officer and **Ruslan Marakhovskii** (42) will become the new Chief Financial Officer. Both have many years of experience in the logistics and financial sector and will lead the logistics company together with interim CEO Konstantin Teterin.

Members' News

AMBROGIO

May 2022

Construction work began at the new Ambrogio terminal in Domegliara

Click: <https://ambrogiointermodal.com/en/news/construction-work-began-at-domegliara-terminal/>

CARGOBEAMER

April 2022

CargoBeamer launches own wagon production facility in Germany

Click: <https://www.cargobeamer.com/news/CargoBeamer-will-launch-its-own-wagon-production-facility.html>

HUPAC

June 2022

New association Fermerci launched in Italy with Hupac's participation

Click: <https://www.hupac.com/EN/Fermerci-una-nuova-associazione-tra-operatori-del-trasporto-merci-su-ferro-egeabboo?altnlg=1>

INTERPORTO BOLOGNA

April 2022

Interporto Bologna purchased a new shunting locomotive

Click: <https://www.interporto.it/en/interporto-bologna-spa-has-purchased-a-new-shunting-locomotive-a814>

KOMBIVERKEHR

June 2022

Closing of successful business year

Click: https://www.kombiverkehr.de/de/presse/nachrichten/:Kombiverkehr_KG_schafft_Turnaround_in_der_Mengenentwicklung

LANFER TERMINAL

May 2022

Construction works of the Maxi-Terminal Hamm have started

Click: <https://www.lanfer-logistik.com/aktuelles/meldungen/maxi-terminal-hamm-klimafreundliche-logistik-im-herzen-europas-startet-in-kuerze>

METRANS

May 2022

Assembly of fourth gantry cranes at both the Budapest-Csepel and the Dunajska Streda terminals

Click: <https://metrans.eu/development-of-mettrans-budapest-csepel-terminal-bucs-2/>

Click: <https://metrans.eu/4-th-giant-at-the-terminal-in-dunajska-streda-installation-of-a-new-crane/>

Key Dates & Events

22-23 August, Stockholm	7 th UIRR Nordic Seminar
7-8 September, Warsaw	Rail Freight Summit
20-22 September, Berlin	Innotrans
21 September, Berlin	RNE event and EDICT Project kick-off meeting
5-7 October, Prague	IRFC International Rail Freight Conference
6-7 October, Cologne	Track Connection Conference
12-13 October, Berlin	Rail Infrastructure Forum
27 October, Antwerp	Intermodal Marketplace
3 November, Berlin	Climate Economy Foundation Conference
3-4 November, Mainz	International Conference on Rail Freight and Logistics
14-17 November, Lisbon	Transport Research Arena Conference
1 December, Online	2022 European Intermodal Summit
1 December, Brussels	FEPOR Stakeholders' Conference



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FOR ROAD-RAIL
COMBINED TRANSPORT

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