



Will harmonised rules of CT be gone?

2018 ended up a growth year for European Combined Transport, the sixth in a row since 2012. Despite many operational difficulties, the sector managed to keep its head up amidst a slowing economy. Moreover, the UIRR CT Sentiment Index remains at "slightly positive" for the coming year, which indicates confidence in the benefits that intermodal transport can deliver but also fragility in the face of an uncertain regulatory outlook.

The European Union Member States expressed a view concerning the amendment of the Combined Transport Directive on 3 December, which presents a risk of dismantling the harmonised intermodal regulatory framework that exists since 1975. In the dialogues the European Parliament, the Commission and the Council are still trying to find solutions for a new, more ambitious and harmonised regulatory framework for CT.

We are facing accelerating climate change, worsening air pollution, stalling accident performance, a deteriorating road infrastructure and ever denser congestion and still: Member States spend nearly 50% more on subsidizing road transport than electric rail or waterborne modes. The EU's recently updated internalization study found that while a tonne-kilometre of road haulage receives 5 cents of public funding, trains and barges get only 3,5 cents. The pledge of the OECD Transport Ministers made at the International Transport Forum in 2017 has so far proven empty talk as neither the necessary rewriting of road transport's EU rulebook nor the needed progressive amendments to the CT Directive were agreed.

The European rail freight sector has unveiled an ambitious initiative, Rail Freight Forward, which targets a market share doubling of freight trains: to 30% - from the current 17% - by 2030. This coincides with the International Energy Agency's conclusion, expressed in a recent study, calling for an "aggressive strategic deployment of rail freight". Stakeholders behind both initiatives should be aware that Combined Transport is one of the main sources of the cargo that is carried by freight trains already today. And this will be increasingly the case as rail freight's market share can only grow by shifting cargo currently carried in (long-haul) trucks.

The fourth quarter of 2018 saw the one-year anniversary of the resumption of traffic after the Rastatt incident. While an international contingency handbook has been compiled during this time, some of the essential measures needed to prevent the recurrence of a similar disturbance have yet to be enacted. Moreover, infrastructure works-related operational disturbances continued to negatively impact the performance of freight trains, which resulted in poor punctuality throughout 2018.

Four UIRR members closed 2018 with major corporate transactions: the entire Rail Cargo Operator Group became full member of the association; Hupac acquired the operator ERS; Metrans absorbed Polzug and became a direct member of UIRR; Novatrans acquired Greenmodal and thereby extended its capabilities to waterborne intermodal operations.

Ralf-Charley Schultze – President



**Freight & Terminal Forum
Exhibition and Conference**

Utrecht, 26-28 March 2019



**Multimodality Conference
- Towards the future**

Brussels, 26 February 2019

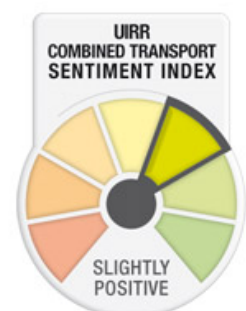
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UIRR Quarterly CT Performance Gauge



Business outlook for the 12 months between 1 January 2019 - 31 December 2019



Performance of Rail Freight

Punctuality performance of German network hinders CT

November 2018

Speakers have declared their disappointment with the deteriorating reliability of the German rail infrastructure at an event of SGKV organized at the Swiss embassy in Berlin.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1066-punctuality-performance-on-the-german-network-weighs-on-ct-performance.html>

Freight doesn't vote, yet UK drivers want more carried by trains

November 2018

UK Drivers want to see more freight transported by rail to improve safety, reduce congestion and lessen road damage. A recent study shows that upgrading the existing rail lines that run parallel to key congested motorway routes could transfer 2,000 HGVs from each of the A14, A34, M6 and M62 corridors every day.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1063-freight-may-not-get-a-vote-but-people-want-it-transferred-to-rail-on-safety-grounds-.html>

Intermodal consignments overtake classic freight wagons in USA

January 2019

The Association of American Railroads (AAR) has reported that for the first time intermodal shipments (14,5 million) overtook shipping in conventional freight wagons (13,6 million) during 2018.

Link: https://www.logisticsmgmt.com/article/aar_reports_annual_u.s._carload_and_intermodal_gains_for_2018

UIC Report: rapid growth in intermodal, yet ageing assets

January 2019

The International Railway Association's biennial report on the progress of road-rail Combined Transport confirms rapid development yet warns of an ageing fleet of rolling stock.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1092-combined-transport-sector-rises-rapidly-but-with-ageing-fleet.html>

EU Rail Market Monitoring Report finds no progress in freight

January 2019

The 6th RMMS report found no improvement in the performance of freight trains.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1098-6th-rail-market-monitoring-scheme-rmms-report-of-the-eu-commission.html>

Rail infrastructure: Fehmarn Belt tunnel approved, while Lyon-Turin reconstruction is questioned by Italian government

January 2019

While the German government approved the Fehmarn Belt tunnel (the high speed link to be constructed towards Denmark), the Italian government has unveiled a study that questions the wisdom of the Lyon-Turin reconstruction work agreed some years ago.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1095-germany-approves-fehmarnbelt-tunnel.html>

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1111-eu-kommission-macht-wegen-bahntrasse-turin-lyon-druck.html>

Rail freight rebounds in The Netherlands

January 2019

Recent data shows that the shrinking of rail freight performance in The Netherlands, on the decline for a number of years, has stopped in 2018 despite works on the Betuwe route causing operational disturbances.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1105-railfreightcom-rail-freight-volumes-in-the-netherlands-no-longer-in-decline.html>

Additional freight trains to the Port of Genoa

September 2018

10 additional trains per week will alleviate some of the access difficulties to the Port of Genoa that arose after the collapse of the Morandi bridge.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1081-port-of-genoa-10-additional-trains-per-week.html>

Continued efforts to boost EU rail freight performance

December 2018

The Sector Statement that accompanied the 2016 Rotterdam Declaration of EU Member States continues to deliver for the competitiveness of EU rail freight through 10 strategic priorities.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2018/mediacentre/1074-joint-statement-continued-efforts-to-boost-international-rail-freight.html>

Mode-neutral, Fair Regulatory Framework

Oil sector lobbies for own subsidies while despising funding of EV

November 2018

Tax credits for electric vehicles were attacked while the American Institute for Petroleum argues for continued support of oil fossil fuels.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1065-big-oil-doesnt-like-ev-subsidies-just-its-own-giant-subsidy.html>

Dutch government appeals high court ruling forcing it to cut CO₂

October 2018

The government of The Netherlands is challenging a high court ruling by appealing to the Supreme Court to ease the earlier ruling which obliges it to meaningfully cut CO₂ emissions.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1062-dutch-struggles-with-co2-emission-reduction.html>

Transport sector CO₂ reduction pledges fall short – says ITF

January 2019

Climate change cannot be stopped without decarbonising transport. Yet current transport CO₂ reduction commitments are not enough to meet the goals of the COP21 Paris Agreement.

Link <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1060-itf-transport-co2-reduction-pledges-fall-short.html>

EU Member States vote against harmonised intermodal transport

December 2018

With the leadership of the Austrian Council Presidency, the EU Member States voted for a general approach of the ongoing Combined Transport Directive amendment that would endanger the harmonised EU regulatory framework of Combined Transport.

Link <http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2018/mediacentre/1075-joint-press-release-council-abandoning-european-combined-transport.html>

Enhancement of Intermodal Transport

Denmark amends national rules for Combined Transport

October 2018

Under pressure from the EU Commission, the Danish government has adapted the national combined transport regulations that fully implement Directive 92/106/EEC.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1031-denmark-amends-rules-for-combined-transport-.html>

North America sets 5-year record for intermodal growth in 2018

January 2019

The Intermodal Association of North America reported a 5-year record growth for intermodal transport in 2018.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1089-iana-intermodal-volume-growth-in-2018-best-in-five-years.html>

New terminals in Italy and The Netherlands

January 2019

A new terminal has been inaugurated in Marzaglia, Italy, while the construction of a new terminal at a key location along the Betuwe route – in Valburg near Arnhem – was announced in The Netherlands.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1091-new-rail-terminal-in-marzaglia-northern-italy-now-open.html>

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/1099-new-terminal-on-the-betuweroote-.html>

1000 ILU-Code users: major milestone for EU intermodal sector

December 2018

7 years after its introduction, the ILU-Code has achieved a major milestone by registering 1000 entities that own intermodal loading units. UIRR will introduce new services linked to the ILU-Code that promise further advances in competitiveness of the CT sector.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2018/mediacentre/1079-1000-ilu-code-users-a-european-intermodal-success-story.html>

Intermodal transport: effective tool against climate change

October 2018

Intermodal freight transport is an **effective tool in the decarbonization of longer distance overland logistics**, which is viewed as an absolute necessity in the report titled "*Global Warming of 1,5°C*" issued on 5 October 2018 by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Link: <http://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2018/mediacentre/1017-uirr-press-release-intermodal-an-effective-climate-solution.html>

Personnel News

**DB CARGO
EURASIA**
November



Dr Carsten Hinne was appointed Managing Director of DB Cargo Eurasia (formerly Trans-Eurasia Logistics, TEL).



Uwe Leuschner was appointed Managing Director of DB Cargo Eurasia (formerly Trans-Eurasia Logistics, TEL).



Andreas Lübs was appointed Managing Director of DB Cargo Eurasia (formerly Trans-Eurasia Logistics, TEL).

Members' News

TEL Trans-Eurasia Logistics GmbH, TEL, has been renamed DB Cargo Eurasia GmbH
November 2018 [Click: http://newsletter.deutschebahn.com/m/7197902/608002-516d4de52cc121e2496c40cdcc83780f](http://newsletter.deutschebahn.com/m/7197902/608002-516d4de52cc121e2496c40cdcc83780f)

Key Dates & Events

20 February 2019, Brussels	Rail Freight Forward event
20 February 2019, Brussels	CER-UNIFE European Railway Awards
26 February 2019, Brussels	Multimodality – towards the future Conference
27 February 2019, Frankfurt	BGL Combined Transport Day
27 February 2019, Marseille	Med Corridor Advisory Group Meeting
14 March 2019, Genoa	Rhine-Alpine Corridor Terminal Advisory Group Meeting
22 March 2019, Vienna	CombiNet Mitgliederversammlung
26-28 March 2019, Utrecht	Freight & Terminal Forum 2019
26-28 March, Paris	SITL 2019 Conference and Exhibition
27 March 2019, Bakum	Trans Aktuell Combined Transport Symposium
4-5 April 2019, Athens	IBS Conference
10-12 April 2019, Izmir	Eurasia Rail Conference
9-10 May 2019, Hamburg	F&L Conference
13 May 2019, Berlin	Allianz pro Schiene: Digitalization in CT Conference
15-16 May 2019, Brussels	UIRR Workshop and General Assembly
17 May 2019, Como	Hupac Conference
20 May 2019, Florence	5 th Intermodal Forum – internalisation of external costs
4-7 June 2019, Munich	Transport Logistic 2019
18-20 June, Birmingham	Multimodal Expo and Conference 2019
1 July 2019, Frankfurt	Kombiverkehr 50-year Anniversary event
15-18 September, Long Beach	Intermodal Expo 2019



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