



Decisive closing amid traffic disruptions

Combined Transport delivered confident growth of +4,5% during the fourth quarter of 2021, which came on top of a relative strong base a year ago. The performance would have been even stronger if train cancellations and operational delays caused by the numerous uncoordinated works-related disturbances in Germany and France could have been avoided. The UIRR Sentiment Index for the next 12 months remains 'positive' on the impetus of Combined Transport and the new connections being offered to the market. Infrastructure capacity made available to intermodal trains, deteriorating punctuality performance

and an explosion of traction electricity price could, regrettably, undermine the optimistic outlook.

The fourth quarter has been dominated by significant rail freight traffic disturbances. Regarding the uncoordinated works throughout Germany, the intermodal sector intervened towards both the infrastructure manager and the Ministry of Transport, without an immediate effect. European-level intervention is necessary as Member States, one after the other, announce major new investment plans into the rail infrastructure. While all investments are welcome, the cohabitation of the tracks by passenger and freight trains is inadequately regulated, which results in unacceptable deterioration of freight railways' service levels that threatens to reverse the progress achieved by border-crossing intermodal rail freight during the past years. An action plan for rail freight is needed.

New traction electricity prices, applicable from 2022, have been announced in several Member States, which caused major concerns among rail freight customers. The rate of increase in some cases reaches 300% compared to the price in 2021. The reasons, beyond the general price increase for energy, are the incomplete implementation of the energy market liberalisation preventing self-supply of energy, the unsophisticated procurement of electricity by some infrastructure managers without any hedging to protect for possible steep price fluctuations, and the inadequate application of the EU's energy state-aid toolbox by some governments. While electric rail freight is the most efficient pro-rata user of energy, traction electricity remains a major cost component. Without timely and effective intervention, the result will be an undesirable reverse modal shift as some shippers are feared to choose road haulage, which offers cheaper spot rates for the moment.

The European Intermodal Summit, the flagship event of the European intermodal sector, took place on 30 November. The study on the energy efficiency and carbon footprint of door-to-door Combined Transport has been published. The 40-70% lower pro-rata energy need of door-to-door Combined Transport than its corresponding road haulage alternative, alongside with its 60-90% reduced carbon footprint make it the ideal means of decarbonising longer distance inland freight transportation.

UIRR welcomed the TEN-T revision proposal of the European Commission, published just before Christmas. The rules related to European transport infrastructure play a huge role in performance.

We welcome PCC Intermodal of Poland as a new CT Operator member of UIRR. As new technology partners of the association, Eurowagon, Transporeon and Menlo79 have been inaugurated as of 1 January 2022.

Ralf-Charley Schultze – President

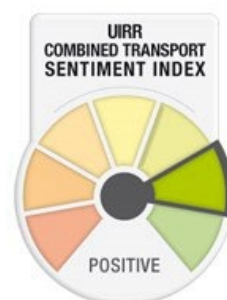
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UIRR Quarterly CT Performance Gauge



Business outlook for the 12 months between 1 January 2022 - 31 December 2022



**Zero-Carbon
Combined Transport Event**

Brussels, 19 May 2022



Grand Opening of the Terminal

Fényeslitke, 23 March 2022

Rail Freight

CACTUS Report identifies 67 rail standards to be revised

October 2021

The "comparative analysis of the combined transport usages and standards" (CACTUS) working group of ERA, UIC and UIRR identified 2000 pages of intermodal-related railway standards to be updated.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2050-intermodal-wird-interoperabel-dvz.html>

Bavaria plans €4bn worth of rail-freight investment until 2035

October 2021

Deutsche Bahn and the Bavarian government will collectively finance €4 billion worth of rail infrastructure investments that will improve conditions for rail freight.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2057-bayern-bahn-will-4-mrd-euro-investieren.html>

Austria commits €18,2 billion for rail infrastructure 2022-27

November 2021

The outlay announced for improving the infrastructure managed by ÖBB is €700 million more than spent during the preceding 6-year budget period.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2073-autriche--182-milliards-deuros-pour-linfrastucture-ferroviaire.html>

Rail freight represented by LINEAS at COP26

November 2021

LINEAS CEO Geert Pauwels presented a convincing speech in Glasgow to underline the service rail freight can contribute to decarbonisation. UIRR was on board the Climate Express that carried the delegates to COP26.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2096-a-spark-of-rail-freight-at-cop26-in-glasgow.html>

Italy pledges to spend €24bn over 10 years on rail infrastructure

November 2021

RFI and the Italian Government have announced a €24 billion outlay for rail infrastructure improvements until 2030.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2091-the-next-ten-years-of-rail-in-italy.html>

Unexpected performance of LL brake blocks leads to inquiry

November 2021

JNS Urgent Procedure was launched by ANSFISA (the Italian NSA) over concerns regarding the unexpected performance of LL brake blocks.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2075-ll-brakes-italy-.html>

Uncoordinated works bring rail freight to a standstill in Germany

December 2021

Several European and German stakeholder associations, including UIRR, proposed a set of measures to overcome the rail freight standstill that emerged as a consequence of several simultaneously conducted works projects throughout the German rail network.

Links: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2080-rail-freight-in-germany-to-a-near-standstill-due-to-construction-works.html>
- <https://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2021/mediacentre/2077-joint-open-letter-disturbances-to-european-supply-chains-due-to-unavailability-of-german-rail-network.html>

Spain commits €24,2bn to rail infrastructure over next 5 years

December 2021

The Spanish government announced the Renfe Mercancías 30 programme to double rail freight's market share by 2030. The infrastructure spending of €24,2 billion will support the objective.

Links: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2110-spain-invests-over-24-billion-in-rail-infrastructure.html>
- <https://www.mitma.gob.es/ferrocarriles/mercancias-30>

Germany to increase rail freight's market share by 33%

November 2021

The new German governing coalition pledges a 33% increase to the market share of rail freight by 2030. Most the new traffic will come from intermodal trains, effectively doubling CT in Germany.

Links: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2089-new-german-governing-coalition-to-reinforce-ct.html>

Sweden to partially reimburse track access charges

November 2021

The partial reimbursement of track access charges in Sweden has been approved by the European Commission.

Links: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2120-state-aid-scheme-to-partially-reimburse-swedish-track-access-charges.html>

UIRR demands EU Rail Freight Action Plan

December 2021

Using the template of the EU's Passenger Rail Action-Plan, UIRR proposes a Rail Freight Action-Plan to be introduced alongside the revision of the Rail Freight Corridor Regulation in Q1.2023.

Links: <https://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2021/mediacentre/2133-press-release-action-plan-for-intermodal-rail-freight-.html>

Hungary warns for 300% traction electricity price increase in 2022

December 2021

The Hungarian Rail Association (HUNGRAIL) predicts a 25-30% rail freight price increase on the back of a 300% traction electricity price raise announced by MAV Infrastructure for 2020. The price of traction electricity has been drastically increasing in several EU Member States due to the ongoing energy crisis.

Links: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2140-hungary-foresees-25-30-freight-rate-rise-due-to-high-energy-prices.html> - <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2136-metrans-warns-of-uncertainty-for-intermodal-services-to-and-via-hungary-in-2022.html>

Level Regulatory Framework

Switzerland to regulate for more modal shift

November 2021

The Swiss Federal Government has pledged additional funds to accelerate modal shift on the North-South Alpine transit routes.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2081-swiss-federal-government-regulates-to-boost-modal-shift.html>

CEO of Girteka predicts a 30% rate increase in 2022

December 2021

Rising fuel prices, the wage increasing impact of the truck driver shortage and new rules from Mobility Package 1 will collectively result in a freight rate increase of up to 30% in 2022 – says Girteka.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2138-over-30-trucking-rate-rise-predicted-for-2022.html>

EU Commission proposes revision of TEN-T Regulation

December 2021

The EU Commission published its TEN-T Regulation revision proposal with exciting punctuality criteria to benefit rail freight and a new section dedicated to intermodal terminals.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/press-releases-and-position-papers/2021/mediacentre/2131-press-release-the-future-of-eu-transportation-infrastructure.html>

Intermodal Transport

Combined Transport: a solution for driver shortage (Fit4Rail project)

October 2021

Combined Transport has been effectively used by several shippers to mitigate the effects of the long-distance truck driver shortage – especially in a time of the coronavirus pandemic.

Links: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2046-kombinierter-verkehr-als-loesung-fuer-fahrermangel-.html> - <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2116-rail-to-replace-truckers.html>

Investment into terminals in Poland will cause logistics revolution

October 2021

Numerous terminal investments both on the Eastern borders and inside the country will enable the multiple fold increase of both transcontinental and intra-EU intermodal transport to/from Poland.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2114-investments-in-intermodal-terminals-revolutionise-polish-logistics.html>

Study confirms CT's energy efficiency and low carbon footprint

November 2021

A recent study by d-fine consultants has confirmed that door-to-door Combined Transport uses 40-70% less energy per tonne-kilometre, while leaving a 60-90% reduced carbon footprint than its most modern (Euro6) unimodal road transport alternative.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/media-centre/leaflet-and-studies/mediacentre/2102-comparative-study-on-co2-emissions-in-door-to-door-ct-d-fine.html>

Over 1 million containers carried by rail between China and Europe

December 2021

The one millionth container travelled along the Russian section of the Silk Road between China and Europe in early December.

Link: <https://www.uirr.com/en/news/mediacentre/2130-historic-milestone-millionth-container-from-china-to-europe-moved-via-russia.html>

Personnel News

FELB

October 2021



Michael Amtmann (31) takes over the Head of Sales responsibilities of Far East Land Bridge starting from October 2021. Through this position at the FELB's Vienna Headquarters, Mr. Amtmann will be responsible for services and product strategies, customer development combined with all sales activities along the Eurasian corridor.

IBS

October 2021



Michael Breuer, CEO of RailWatch GmbH in Bonn Bad Godesburg, has been elected as the new Chairman of IBS, the International Rail Freight Business association, a German MoU Peer association of UIRR. IBS promotes all forms of rail freight, including freight villages or multimodal platforms. Mr Breuer succeeds IBS founder Olaf Krüger, who retires as executive Chairman but will continue to act as the first Honorary Chairman.

WIENCONT

October 2021



Monika Gindl-Muzik was appointed Managing Director of WienCont Container Terminal GmbH. Her professional career in this sector started at Roland Spedition, where she built up and headed the intermodal segment for 13 years. For ICL - Intermodal Container Logistics GmbH - she headed the business development and key account management for strategic customers. For 9 years she was responsible for the development of intermodal traffic at Rail Cargo Austria AG, as Business Development Manager Intermodal as well as the management of strategic customer accounts in this field. Recently Mrs. Gindl-Muzik headed the sales department of ecco-rail group, a private Railway Undertaking.

Members' News

CFL INTERMODAL

October 2021

Connecting Europe Express made a stop in Luxembourg/Bettembourg to showcase rail freight

Click: <https://www.cfl-mm.lu/en-gb/news/detail/follow-the-cee-event-here-on-our-live-stream/>

DUSS TERMINALS

October 2021

40 millionth handling at DUSS

Click: https://www1.deutschebahn.com/ecm2-duss/news_uebersicht/40-Millionster-Umschlag-bei-der-DUSS-6611772?contentId=714944

KOMBIVERKEHR

December 2021

Robert Breuhahn: a lasting legacy for the logistics industry

Click: https://www.kombiverkehr.de/en/service/customers/news/Robert-Breuhahn_lasting_legacy_for_the_logistics_industry

LUGO TERMINAL

October 2021

Large investment into containers and craneable semi-trailers

Click: <https://www.lugoterminal.com/ecomondo-2021/>

METRANS

December 2021

CL Europort Malaszewicze becomes new member of the METRANS Group

Click: <https://metrans.eu/cl-europort-malaszewicze-new-member-of-the-metrans-group/>

SAMSKIP

December 2021

150 new sustainable reefer containers added to the fleet

Click: <https://www.samskip.com/news/samskip-adds-150-new-sustainable-reefer-containers-to-its-fleet/>

Key Dates & Events

21 February, Paris	European Railway Summit
22-25 February, Geneva	75th UNECE Inland Transport Committee
22-24 March, Bucharest	Club Feroviar's Railway Days
23 March, Fényeslitke	Grand Opening of the East-West Gate Terminal
24 March, Brussels	ERFA 20th Anniversary Event - Liberalisation of Rail Freight
5-8 April, Paris	SITL Exhibition
12-14 April, Moscow	TransRussia Exhibition
20-21 April, Riga	Track Access Charging Summit
21 April, Zaragoza	3rd Jornada Intermodal
14 May, Luxembourg	F&L event
19 May, Brussels	UIRR General Assembly & 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



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