

## Transition to a new management

UIRR's Board of Directors unanimously appointed Mr Ralf-Charley Schultze as the organisation's new Director General. The seasoned senior multimodal logistics manager will join UIRR from 1 January 2014 to co-lead over a six month period with Director General Martin Burkhardt, who will retire from 1 July 2014.

UIRR will be under dual leadership over the first half of 2014 to ensure a smooth transition between retiring Director General Martin Burkhardt and incoming Director General Ralf-Charley Schultze.



Mr Schultze (50) started his career in different logistics and forwarding companies in Europe which gave him a solid background and enabled him to understand, organise and implement logistics processes meeting the needs of the market. For five years Mr Schultze was responsible for Combined Transport within the freight department of Swiss Railways, the automotive business and partner management.

As Multimodal Director for Europe, Russia and Central Asia he developed the multimodal business within GEFCO since 2009, such as the organization of supply chains for automotive plants. Mr Schultze studied law in Saarbrücken and Strasbourg, he speaks five languages.



Martin Burkhardt moved to Brussels from the position of Marketing Director at Kombiverkehr to open the Head Office of UIRR in 1988. Over the quarter Century that he spent at the helm, UIRR grew into an organisation well recognised and respected for its professionalism and competence, as well as an effective facilitator for the development of European Road-Rail Combined Transport.

UIRR's mission is to act as the one voice on behalf of international road-rail Combined Transport stakeholders such as CT-Operators and Terminal Managers. UIRR is very close to European decision making institutions and processes and provides essential support to the market. Enhancing harmonisation and standardisation in the daily operations of Combined Transport, initiating common projects and encouraging best practice all this belongs to the daily business of UIRR and will be continued under the new leadership of Mr Schultze.

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Robert Breuhahn

*"The continuity of leadership at UIRR is ensured through the timely appointment of our new Director General, and the six-month transition period during when the two Director Generals will collectively lead the team." - commented UIRR Chairman, Robert Breuhahn following the Board of Directors' meeting, adding: "I am convinced that UIRR will strengthen and enhance its important role in the international environment of Combined Transport."*

### Who is UIRR?

Founded in 1970, the **International Union for Road-Rail Combined Transport** (UIRR) represents the interests of European road-rail Combined Transport Operators and Transhipment Terminal Managers. Road-Rail Combined Transport (CT) is a system of freight forwarding which is based on efficiently and economically inserting electric rail into long-distance (road) transport-chains through the use of intermodal loading units (ILU).