Developing the technical challenge for the future European rail system

European rail operating community builds on the vision of "Challenge 2050" and publishes its

Rail Technical Strategy for the future European rail system

(Paris / Brussels, 11 February 2014) Rail is the transport backbone of Europe, a core component of a strong economy and a vital service to European society.

In order to respond to the expected growth in transport demand, both passenger and freight but also to develop Europe as the world leader in rail transport, the railway operating community has today published the Rail Technical Strategy Europe (RTSE).

With an editorial team led by UIC, the RTSE is structured around the core themes to be found in *Challenge 2050* and develops its technical pillar.

It will enable the rail operating community to focus on a wide range of core points and take the opportunities to satisfy customer requirements and to prepare for the challenges related to the way in which the future system is designed, constructed, operated and maintained. In this way, it can also contribute to wider social and economic goals within the communities that rail serves.

A technical strategy relies not only on technological innovation but also on a culture of receptiveness to new ways of delivering customer service, and a willingness to challenge barriers. The rail operating community will work together and with other stakeholders to ensure that the necessary change is best facilitated, that priorities are developed and funding mechanisms identified.

RTSE is well placed to guide and inspire future innovation through a well-balanced, business-led programme. The use of instruments such as Shift²Rail will ensure that the necessary resources are coordinated and concentrated to support the wider rail operating community and the system in general to innovate.

RTSE is available here:http://www.uic.org/IMG/pdf/rail_technical_strategy_february_2014.pdf

You can visit also the European part of the UIC website: www.uic.org/europe

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