



The Voice
of European
Railways

PRESS RELEASE

European rail freight and infrastructure CEOs meet in Stockholm

(Stockholm / Brussels / Paris, 04 June 2014) Today, CEO's of European rail freight companies and European rail infrastructure managers met in Stockholm. The meeting was the perfect occasion for the CEOs to review the situation of rail freight on the open market. The meeting also focused on how to further improve operational collaboration between rail freight undertakings and infrastructure managers to optimise the opportunities for rail freight in the European Union.

The expectations of rail freight undertakings towards infrastructure managers on freight corridors drove the discussion addressing among other issues the enhanced cooperation between the infrastructure managers and rail freight undertakings aiming at enhancing the customer focus in an open freight market.

CER Executive Director Libor Lochman commented: *"Cooperation between infrastructure managers is crucial to increase the attractiveness and efficiency of cross-border rail traffic. This is what CER's infrastructure managers are doing on a regular basis, whether within the frame of existing regulations or outside. But, more importantly, it is crucial that infrastructure managers and railway operators talk to and understand each other. CER is looking forward to this discussion."*

UIC Director General Jean-Pierre Loubinoux stated: *"UIC has been monitoring the development of rail freight corridors since the entry in force of regulation 913/2010. As the international technical cooperation platform bringing together the entire railway community – operators as well as infrastructure managers- UIC plays a key role to ensure the overall coherence of the rail system and optimisation of international operations in particular at interfaces. UIC is continuously committed with its partners to promoting innovation in the rail sector and harmonisation in the technical, operational and administrative fields in partnership with competent bodies such as OTIF or CIT, to better benefit of rail freight operators and infrastructure managers"*.

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UIC

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UIC, founded 1922 and based in Paris, currently groups 240 member railways –integrated companies, operators, Infrastructure managers– from over 90 countries and all 5 continents. Its main mission consists in promoting the development of rail transport across the world and organising international cooperation among its members. Main projects focus on technical harmonisation and international railway standards, research, development of freight (international corridors) and passenger business (including high speed), sustainable transport, safety and security, expertise development and education. The UIC develops close cooperation links with over 50 international organizations and professional associations and has consultative status to the United Nations. See www.uic.org

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The Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER) brings together more than 80 members - European railway undertakings, their national associations as well as infrastructure companies. The membership covers long-established bodies, new entrants and both private and public-sector organisations. CER members represent about 70% of the rail network length, more than 85% of the rail freight business and over 96% of rail passenger operations in EU, EFTA and EU accession countries. For more information, see www.cer.be or follow us via Twitter at [@CER_railways](https://twitter.com/CER_railways)