The worldwide association of cooperation for railway companies
UIC includes

200 members across 5 continents
80 active members
83 associate members
37 affiliate members

Results of UIC’s 200 Members

2,500 billion passenger-kilometres
9,500 billion tonne-kilometres
1,000,000 kilometres of lines

UIC activity

6 regional assemblies
7 forums and platforms
More than 30 expert working groups
180 projects

Deliverables

85 training sessions, conferences and seminars per year
670 “UIC Technical Leaflets”
UIC includes

200 MEMBERS ACROSS 5 CONTINENTS:
- 80 active members (including railways from Europe, Russia, the Middle East, North Africa, South Africa, India, Pakistan, China, Japan, Korea) and companies operating worldwide such as Veolia Transport.
- 83 associate members, mainly including railways from Africa, America, Asia and Australia.
- 37 affiliate members (related or ancillary rail transport businesses or services).

UIC MEMBERS MAY BE:
- Railway companies.
- Infrastructure managers.
- Railway or combined transport operators, rolling stock and traction companies.
- Service providers: rail catering, night trains, public transport, shipping lines.

UIC: growing membership

2 UIC Regional Offices are located in Delhi and Tehran, and 1 representative to the Community of Independent States (CIS) is located in Tashkent.
UIC, a longstanding association

UIC’s original principal task: to harmonise and improve conditions for railway constructions and operations

The idea of creating an international association, bringing together the railway companies, was developed in the wake of the international conference of Portorosa in Italy (present-day Slovenia), on 23 November 1921, followed by the international conference of Genoa on 3 May 1922.

State representatives favoured the “creation of a permanent rail administration focusing on international traffic for the standardisation and improvement of conditions of railway construction and operations”. The international conference founding UIC was held in Paris on 17 October 1922.

Initially UIC had 51 members from 29 countries including Japan and China, which were soon joined by the railways from the USSR, the Middle East and North Africa.
UIC’s mission and overall objectives

ACCORDING TO THE STATUTES, UIC’S MISSION FOCUSES MAINLY ON:

- Promoting rail transport around the world with the aim to meet current and future challenges of mobility and sustainable development.
- Promoting interoperability, creating new world standards for railways, including common standards with other transport modes.
- Developing and facilitating all forms of international cooperation among members, facilitating the sharing of best practices (benchmarking).
- Supporting members in their efforts to develop new business and new areas of activity.
- Proposing new ways to improve technical and environmental performance of rail transport, boosting competitiveness and reducing costs.
3 levels of international cooperation activities

- **STRATEGIC LEVEL**
  Coordinated with and between the 6 UIC Regions created as part of the new Governance.

- **TECHNICAL / PROFESSIONAL COOPERATION LEVEL**
  Strategic guidelines for technical cooperation activities are given by Forums and Platforms composed of member representatives.

- **SUPPORT SERVICES LEVEL**
  Composed of Finance, Human Resources, Legal, Communications, and Institutional Relations units.

Decision-making bodies

- **UIC GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
  200 MEMBERS

- **UIC EXECUTIVE BOARD**
  21 MEMBERS

- **REGIONAL ASSEMBLIES**

  - **AFRICA**
    - 4
  - **ASIA**
    - 5
  - **EUROPE**
    - 4
  - **MIDDLE EAST**
    - 3
  - **NORTH AMERICA**
    - 2
  - **SOUTH AMERICA**
    - 1
  - **OCEANIA**
    - 1
  - **RUSSIA**
    - 1

- **UIC HEADQUARTERS**
UIC roles

In a wide scope of activities

- **UIC PROVIDES** its members with know-how, technical and operational expertise, technical solutions, regulations, standards and a host of other services via its subsidiaries (UIC leaflets and publications, statistics, etc.).

- **UIC DEVELOPS** specifications, standards and interfaces and produces studies, especially concerning interoperability along international corridors.

- **UIC FACILITATES** the dissemination of innovative ideas and concepts. It upholds the shared interests of its members and supports political projects of infrastructure development.

- **UIC ORGANISES** international seminars, information sessions, conferences and congresses, such as: the World Congress on High Speed Rail (UIC HIGHSPEED), the UIC World ERTMS Conference, the World Congress on Railway Research (WCRR), the Global Rail Freight Conference (GRFC), the Security Congress, the Sustainable Development Conference, the International Level Crossing Safety Awareness Day (ILCAD) and the World Conference on Stations (NextStation).

Key roles

- Know-how
- Technical and operational expertise
- Technical solutions
- Regulations, standards
- Best practices
- Specifications
- Standards
- Interfaces
- Studies
- Interoperability for international rail corridors
- Exchange platforms
- Innovation: new ideas, new concepts
- Protecting member railways’ common interests
- Support policies of development of key infrastructure projects
- Forums
- Seminars
- Conferences
- Congresses: WCRR, UIC HIGHSPEED 2010, Global Rail Freight Conference, ERTMS, NextStation
UIC Technical cooperation bodies

UIC is an association which exists through and for the benefit of its members, whose needs are expressed in the shape of projects defined and run by the UIC platforms and forums. These meet several times a year to determine financial resources and the provisional budgets, which are subsequently approved officially by the Regional and General Assemblies.
UIC Headquarters organisation

(*) Fundamental Values Department includes 5 Divisions: Sustainable Development, Research, Safety, Security, Expertise Development. They work closely with the 3 other Technical Departments.
UIC projects

To meet the challenges of rail transport in today’s world

THE TECHNICAL INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION LEVEL

The activities are structured around 4 main fields:
- Rail system, including Research
- Passengers, with a world focus on high speed
- Freight
- Fundamental values including Sustainable Development, Safety, Security and Expertise development.

Chief priorities for global activities

5 KEY AREAS FOR GLOBAL COOPERATION

In the interest of the worldwide railway community, the Executive Board and General Assembly additionally approved in December 2009 the Chairman’s proposal to focus further UIC activities on:
- Environment, Sustainable Development
- Safety and Security
- Freight / Freight corridors
- Signalling
- Standardisation.
UIC owes its status as a prominent association to its global standing, credentials, expertise and technical excellence. A number of international bodies value the relations they foster with UIC to tackle the most pressing concerns in railway development, particularly at the beginning of the 21st century.

UIC has had consultative status to the United Nations (ECOSOC) since 1949.
The UIC Code

The Code is composed of around 670 “UIC leaflets”.

These leaflets reflect UIC’s expertise in all areas of railway activity: infrastructure, rolling stock, installations, safety, operations, IT systems, etc.
Three subsidiaries supporting the UIC activities

- The Railway Technical Publications (ETF) subsidiary produces and sells UIC publications such as UIC Leaflets, technical documents, reports and studies.
  Contacts: ETF – Edition: ETFedi@uic.org
  ETF – Sales: ETFpubli@uic.org

- The Technical Language Services (L&T) subsidiary provides both members and external clients with language services (interpreting and translation) using their expertise in the rail sector to ensure a high-quality service.
  Contact: lt@uic.org

- The Patrimoine - Congress (UICP) subsidiary is responsible for room hire for congresses, meetings and seminars.
  Contact: uicpcongres@uic.org

The International Railway Strategic Management Institute

The International Railway Strategic Management Institute - IRSMI - was established to adapt to the complex and competitive environment and to ensure that UIC members remain at the forefront of industry mutation, by developing new training solutions for railway executive managers. This Institute, chaired by UIC, is managed with founding members Indian Railways and Transnet Freight Rail.
UIC products and publications

Recent publications and products

UIC statistics, brochures on strategic issues, DVDs, CD-ROMs, …