News Release

UIC and UNIFE publish the CAB Technical Recommendation (TecRec) on the Driver Machine Interfaces in the scope of TSI High Speed and Conventional Rail


The objective of the driver’s cab requirements described in these technical recommendations is to ensure the unrestricted, safe and efficient operation of rolling stock on the entire European railways network as far as driver-machine-interfaces and cab issues are concerned. These technical recommendations are derived from operation, ergonomic aspects and safety. They provide a framework for designing cab-functions and driver-machine-interfaces allocated to the intended operating purpose of the rolling stock. They are supposed to comply with the constraints of the whole Trans-European network in terms of drivers’ related interfaces to rolling stock.

This TecRec:

- Defines the operating elements on EMU/DMU, locomotives and driver’s cabs of driving coaches, whether high speed or conventional.
- Describes some basic functional and system requirements associated with harmonised Driver-Machine-Interfaces for EMU/DMU, locomotives and related driver’s cabs of driving coaches, whether high speed or conventional. It is assumed that all functions relevant for cab-equipped rolling stock may be managed with these interfaces.

More than 15 years of European Research studies have demonstrated that a standardised desk configuration is a key issue for all European drivers independent of the specific type of rolling stock. Therefore the rolling stock specific deviations should be limited to a minimum. A set of nowadays commonly shared conclusions and design principles have been provided by recent projects (e.g. EUCAB & EUDDplus) and they have been considered in the course of the elaboration of the UIC/UNIFE TecRec standards.

The content of this UIC/UNIFE document has been prepared as a result of the outcomes of the EU funded project Modtrain/Modlink/EUCAB and EUDDplus. The project partners involved were:

They have put forward the deliverable from:


The TecRec Cab has been approved within the UIC by the Rail System Forum and by the UNIFE Technical Committee. TecRecs are presented in the same format as that used for the European Standards (EN) so as to facilitate a future transfer to the CEN or CENELEC and publication as an EN.

The TecRec will be available on the UNIFE and UIC websites as well as at http://www.tecrec-rail.org/Rolling-stock for immediate use.

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For more information please contact:

For Press
Unife: Max Obenaus, Head of Communications
Tel: +32 2 642 23 28, max.obenaus@unife.org

UIC: Liesbeth de Jong, UIC Media Relations
Tel: +33 1 44 49 20 53, dejong@uic.org

For the Associations
UNIFE: Lara Isasa, Head of Project Management
Tel.: +32 2 6261262, lara.isasa@unife.org

UIC: Enno WIEBE, Manager Research Projects and Programmes
Tel.: +33 1 4449 2097, wiebe@uic.org

Note to the editor

On 11th December 2009, UNIFE and UIC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the aim to work together in the field of voluntary rail standardisation and to jointly publish Technical Recommendations (TecRecs).

The primary field of application of TecRecs will be rolling stock and the interfaces. The publication of TecRecs will generally result from R&D cooperative programs jointly managed by the UIC and UNIFE; they may also be the result of projects run by one or other of the associations but for which the outcome has a common benefit related to the standardisation of interfaces between operator and supplier or on any matter of common interest.

TecRecs are presented in the same format as that used for the European Standards (EN) so as to facilitate a future transfer to the CEN or CENELEC and publication as an EN.

The general framework hierarchy for TecRecs is: 1. EN standards elaborated by CEN/CLC, 2. TecRecs elaborated by UIC and UNIFE, 3. UIC leaflets elaborated by UIC.

About UNIFE

UNIFE represents the European Rail Industry in Brussels since 1992. The Association gathers 66 of Europe’s leading large and medium-sized rail supply companies active in the design, manufacture, maintenance and refurbishment of rail transport systems, subsystems and related equipment. A further one thousand suppliers of railway equipment partake in UNIFE activities through 15 national rail industry associations.

UNIFE members have an 80% market share in Europe and supply more than 50% of the worldwide production of rail equipment and services. UNIFE represents its members’ interests at the level of both European and international institutions. On the technical side, UNIFE works on the setting of interoperability standards and coordinates EU-funded research projects that aim at the technical harmonisation of railway systems. The association is one of the supporting bodies of the European Railway Agency. You can find more information on: www.unife.org

About UIC

The International Union of Railways (UIC) is the international professional association representing the rail sector. UIC currently counts 200 members across five continents. Its mandate is to promote the growth of rail transport across the world and to encourage and organise international cooperation between its members. UIC’s technical departments draw their lead from the strategies defined by the members of its specialist forums and platforms, and steer or coordinate a total of circa 200 projects in the field of international cooperation, covering all aspects of rail activities: rail system technology, passenger and freight transport, research, safety and security, sustainable development and the development of skills and expertise.

A significant share of UIC’s work consists of strengthening the coherence of the rail system as a whole and its international interoperability, as well as boosting the competitiveness of both passenger and freight transport services. The aim is to enable rail transport to meet current challenges of mobility and sustainable development as effectively as possible. You can find more information on: www.uic.org