UIC and UNIFE publish the first Technical Recommendation (TecRec) on the measurement and calculation of energy consumption in railway vehicles

(Paris/Brussels, 11 March 2010 ) At the first meeting of the UIC/UNIFE Standards Management Group, the joint group that manages the TecRec process, UIC and UNIFE announced the publication of the first TecRec (Technical Recommendation). This first TecRec "Specification and verification of energy consumption for railway rolling stock", deals with the measurement and calculation of energy consumption in railway vehicles and is a result of the RailEnergy project (www.railenergy.org) coordinated by UNIFE and managed in collaboration with the UIC.

The objective of the TecRec is to determine the energy performance of specified rolling stock in a certain service. The criterion for the energy consumption of the rolling stock is the total net energy consumed – either at the pantograph or from the fuel tank – over a predefined service profile, which is either taken from the future operation of the train, or according to a standardised typical profile valid for the specific service category of trains. In this way the TecRec will provide the framework within which energy performance values for trains and locomotives can be compared from a common baseline and thereby support benchmarking and improvement of the energy efficiency of rail vehicles.

The RailEnergy project is made up of partners who are rail system integrators (AnsaldoBreda, Alstom, Bombardier, Siemens), rail system suppliers (Faiveley, SAFT Batteries), railway undertakings and infrastructure managers (Banverket, Rail Cargo Austria, RFI, Trenitalia), simulation companies and consultancies (D’Appolonia, Corys, emkamatik, ENOTRAK, EUROLUM, FAV, IST, IZT, SCIROIDEA, Transrail, Transtechnik) as well as universities and research institutes (KTH, Nitel, Vuz).

The TecRec has been approved within the UIC by the Technology and Research Platform 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 within the UNIFE and UIC websites and very soon at www.tecrec-rail.org for immediate use by UIC and UNIFE members.

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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