UIC Railway Noise Days
Organised by Sustainability Unit, Noise and Vibration Sector

Moderator: Jakob OERTLI, Chair of the UIC Noise and Vibration Sector & SBB

“Is the railway a good neighbour?”

09:00 Welcome remarks: François DAVENNE, UIC Director General

09:10 Introduction: Jakob OERTLI, Chair of the UIC Noise and Vibration Sector & SBB

Lucie ANDERTON, Head of UIC Sustainability Unit

*** European focus ***

09:20 Recent Commission initiatives on rail freight noise - Nino ZAMBARA, EU DG MOVE

09:40 The future of the EU noise policy - Marco PAVIOTTI, EU DG ENV

10:00 Railway noise reduction, policy impacts - Ethem PEKIN, CER

10:20 Q&A

10:30 Coffee break

*** Special topics ***

11:00 European Environment Agency, Environmental noise in Europe 2020 report - Eulalia PERIS, EEA

11:20 State-of-the-art for railway noise in Europe - Pınar YILMAZER, Advisor of UIC Noise and Vibration Sector & Wout SCHWANEN, M + P Raadgevende Ingenieurs BV

11:40 UIC Train Track Interaction Acoustic White Paper - Pierre Etienne GAUTIER, SNCF Réseau

11:50 Q&A + Concluding remarks

12:20 Closed
Mr. François Davenne is the Director General of UIC, and focuses, in particular, on improving the perception of the rail sector and on consolidating the position of the railways as the backbone of smart and decarbonised mobility. He graduated from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Télécommunications d’Evry in 1988 and from the Ecole Nationale d’Administration (ENA) in 1999. Throughout his career, he has consistently promoted interdisciplinarity as a key factor for success. Having gained experience in international satellite telecommunications, he initially held various roles in the housing sector, making use of his strong financial and legal skills. He was involved in policy and regulation of the sector and managed key operational programmes, most notably for the city of Paris. After three years with the French Ministry of Transport, working on railway safety and regulation, with an emphasis on European regulations, he was elected in 2012 as Secretary General of OTIF, the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail. From early 2013 to the end of 2018, he promoted interdisciplinarity and partnership building in order to expand and develop the uniform regulations for international carriage by rail.

Mrs. Lucie Anderton joined the UIC this year to lead the Sustainability Unit. Lucie is an Environmental Management graduate and Chartered Environmentalist. Seconded from Network Rail, where she has gained 15 years of experience in the UK rail industry in the field of sustainability. Working in major railway infrastructure projects both during construction and design phases, Lucie has strived to embed sustainable thinking in design processes and construction techniques, including how new railways can be constructed to avoid impacts upon neighbours. With the RSSB, Lucie chaired the UK Rail Industry Noise group and published an article in the Acoustics Bulletin ‘Raising the bar is assessing railway noise and vibration for new line-side housing’ (2018).

Mr. Jakob Oertli, born 1962 in Los Angeles, California, holds a diploma from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zürich, Switzerland and received his Ph.D. from Rutgers University in New Jersey. He currently works as an environmental engineer in the Track Systems Unit in the Infrastructure Department of the Swiss Federal Railways (SBB) and is responsible for national and international noise management issues as well as for noise reduction measures on the track. He is also Chair of UIC’s Noise and Vibration Sector and the editor of the state-of-the-art report for railway noise in Europe published in 2020.

Mr. Nino Zambara spent his entire career in the mobility and transport sector and joined the European Commission in 2013. In the Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT) he has worked on vehicle automation and vehicle connectivity. Currently he works in the Directorate General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) as a Policy Officer in the unit “Single European Railway Area” and is, among others, responsible for the rail market aspects of rail noise reduction.

Mr. Marco Paviotti is a mechanical engineer who has been involved in environmental research and policy making since 2000. He worked both in the private and in the public sector in The Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Greece and now in Belgium, where he is policy officer of
the European Commission, by the Directorate General for the Environment. In this role he is in charge of the European environmental noise policy. He has worked in the field of transport and environment in a set of European research projects, and specifically he coordinated the development of the common European noise assessment methods. He contributed to the evaluation and update of the noise related European legislation. He is now involved in the development of the transport policy, for the part related to the environment. He is since 1997 part of the Italian railway engineers’ society.

Mr. Ethem Pekin is the Head of Economic Policy and Sustainability of CER. He leads CER’s work on the economic aspects of relevant EU transport and railway policy topics as well as CER’s work in the areas of environmental sustainability, climate and energy policy. Ethem has a PhD in Applied Economics. Prior to joining CER, he worked as a research associate at the Free University of Brussels. He has expertise on intermodal transport.

Mrs. Eulalia Peris is an environmental noise expert at the European Environment Agency. She manages the noise information of the European Environment Information and Observation Network (EIONET) and is the main author of the Environmental noise in Europe 2020 report. She holds a PhD in Acoustics from the University of Salford (UK) and has worked in the area of environmental noise, in both research and management functions. Previous to her current position, Eulalia worked as a noise and health scientist for Public Health England and as project manager at UNIFE.

Mrs. Pınar Yılmazer is a senior advisor at the UIC Sustainability Unit. She manages the noise and vibration sector and is the editor of the state-of-the-art-report for railway noise in Europe published in 2020. She holds a MRes in Rail System Integration and Advanced Engineering Materials from the University of Birmingham and the University of Manchester (UK) and obtained a patent for the detection of wheel flatten defect on the moving train with acoustic emission sensor. Previous to her current position, Pinar worked in the engineering department at CERN and Turkish State Railways.

Mr. Wout Schwanen is a senior consultant with over 15 years of experience in railway noise and vibration. His field of work ranges from technical research to the development and implementation of noise policy. He was involved in testing of new and innovative noise measures. The results of these tests have been presented on various international conferences. He has led and performed large scale noise measurement campaigns for highspeed, conventional and light rail to determine the acoustical quality of the track. He has developed the product specification for testing rail dampers in the Netherlands. Wout contributed to the Dutch noise assessment method and has worked on the upcoming new Dutch noise legislation. Wout is co-author of UIC state of the art report on railway noise in Europe.

Mr. Pierre Etienne Gautier is Director of the BIM program and digital continuity at SNCF Réseau, where he leads the deployment of the BIM at SNCF Réseau and the construction of the digital twin of the railway infrastructure. He is also the coordinator of the LinX4Rail project within Shift2rail EU program, addressing railway system architecture and prefigurating digital
Twin for rail. He is also Train-Track Interaction sector Chairman at UIC. Previously Director of Innovation at SYSTRA since July 2012, and Scientific Director at the Research and Innovation Department of SNCF from 2007 to 2011, had previously several positions at SNCF mainly in R&D and testing. He is also a Professor at Ecole CentraleSupélec engineering School within University Paris-Saclay (France) since 2000, where he is in charge with courses and Structural dynamics, acoustics and more recently Digital Twin.