

# ERTMS 2024 Conference

23-25 April 2024

Valenciennes, France

#ERTMS2024



WS 8: How to successfully introduce FRMCS on  
EU network and the vehicles?  
Migration Strategies and Challenges

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# Objectives and purpose of this WS

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Focus on FRMCS migration and deployment: identify challenges and possible solutions.

Topics for discussion (Examples)

## STRATEGIC

- Why / when?
  - Which lines and which applications are we targeting first? (Conditions, key issues, challenges)
  - Migration steps
  - Cost factors
  - Bottlenecks, risks.
  - Link migration with ETCS and other enhancements
  - Coordinated approach or case by case approach? National coordination and/or European Coordination? What kind of coordination do we need?

## TECHNICAL

- How?
  - Impact of FRMCS deployment for already existing OB and for TS system, specially signaling. Coordinate migrations.
  - TS practical arrangements for fast deployment: Which frequencies? What about the use of MNOs? How to prepare infrastructure upfront?.
  - OB practical arrangements for deployment: antennas, cabling, OB architectures, dual-mode, VA arrangements, etc.
  - How can solutions help to ease and fasten deployment?

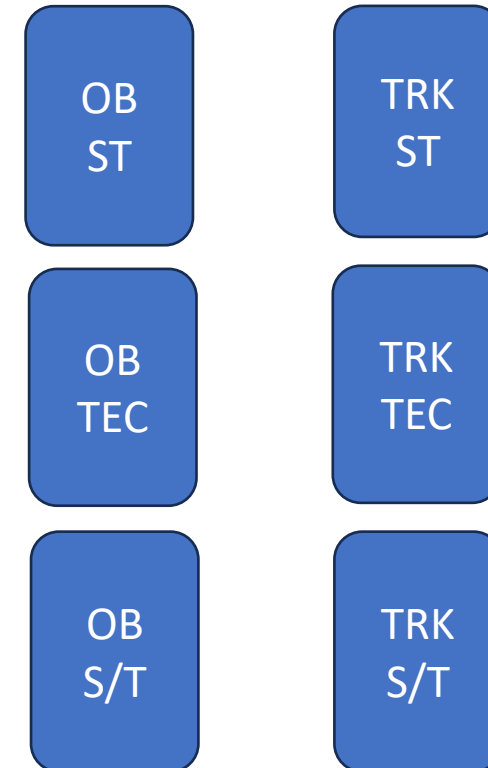
# Workshop Organisation



Total duration: 1 h 30'

- 5 minutes Introduction by moderators.
- 30 minutes presentations to set the topics for discussion.
  - 10 minutes IMs: Pipsa Hallner, Achim Vrielink, Ove Skovdahl
  - 10 minutes RUs: Pascal Désaunay, Morten Schlaeger
  - 10 minutes Industry: Alexander Ende, Michael Kloecker, Jorgen Mattison
- 40 minutes of discussion in subgroups
  - Choose your rapporteur and the topics.
  - Discussion.
  - Wrap up of results.
- 15 minutes for conclusions
- Market place on the 24<sup>th</sup> April, 45 minutes.

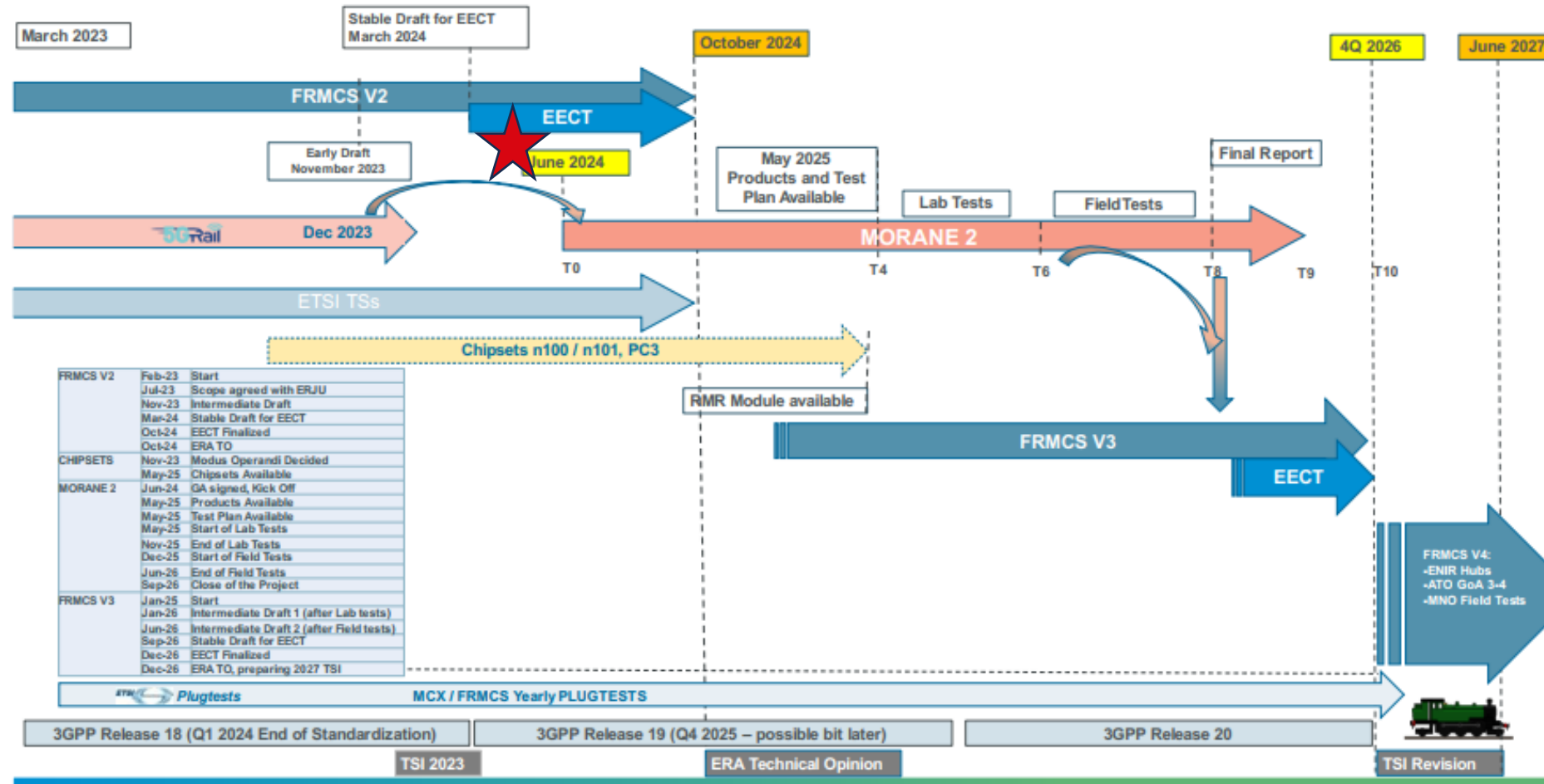
You need to split in 6 tables!!



# Where do we stand now in FRMCS?

Source: Report on FRMCS V2 and V3 Scope and Planning, ERJU, SP

## Roadmap to FRMCS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition (*Market Readiness*)







Thank You!



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Migration Strategies and Challenges

Pipsa Hallner



Leader - Strategic Telecom development  
[Trafikverket - Bransch](#)

Achim Vrielink



Head of Telecom Platform Development  
DB InfraGO AG

Ove Skovdahl



Special Advisor, Coordinator of International Affairs  
[Norwegian Railway Directorate](#)



## Railway

**11,000**

km of track

**525**

stations

**11,000**

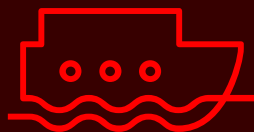
switches and crossings

**4,100**

bridges

**165**

tunnels



## Ferry

**40**

ferry routes

**82**

ferry berths



## Road

**98,500**

km State roads

**16,500**

bridges

**20**

tunnels

**2,000**

road safety cameras

**800**

weather stations



## ICT

**13 200**

km fiber

**20 000**

km Copper cable

**1500**

Sites

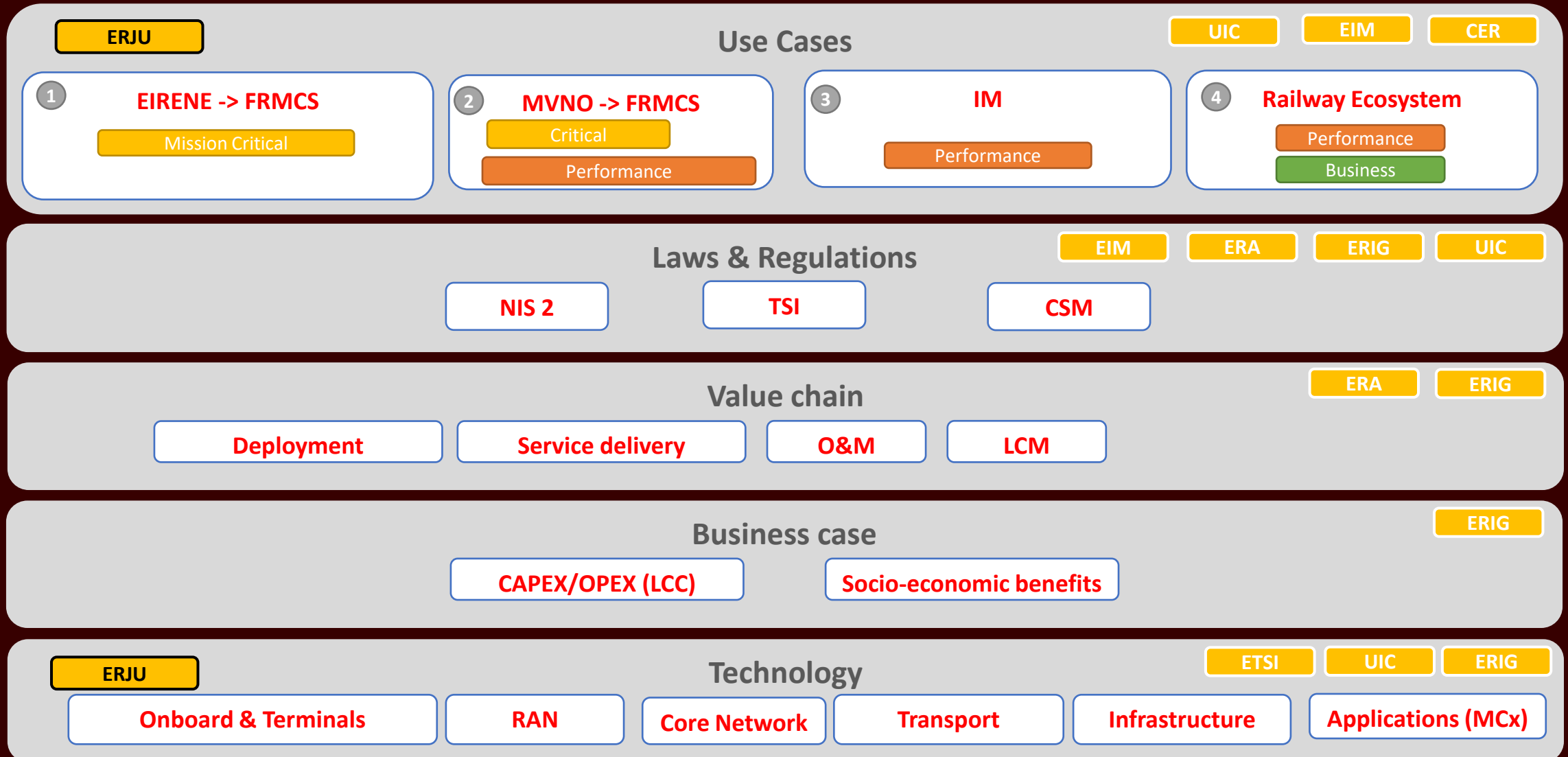
**5000**

M2M connections

**8000**

GSM-R users

# The Scope

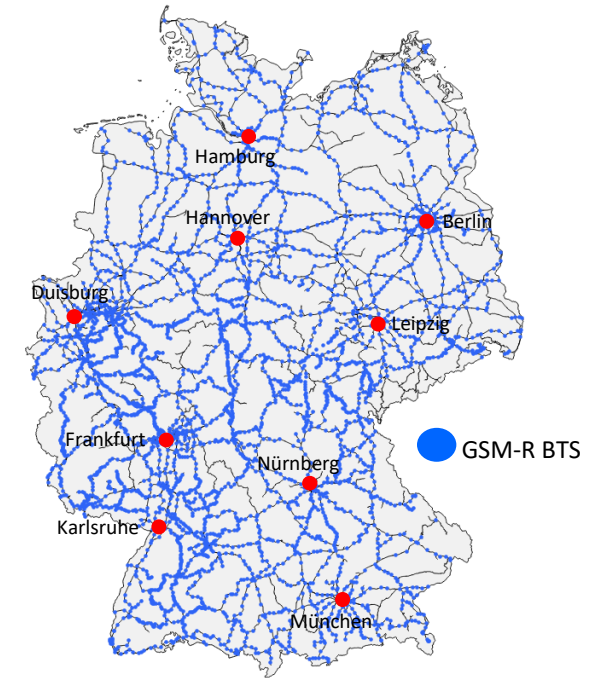




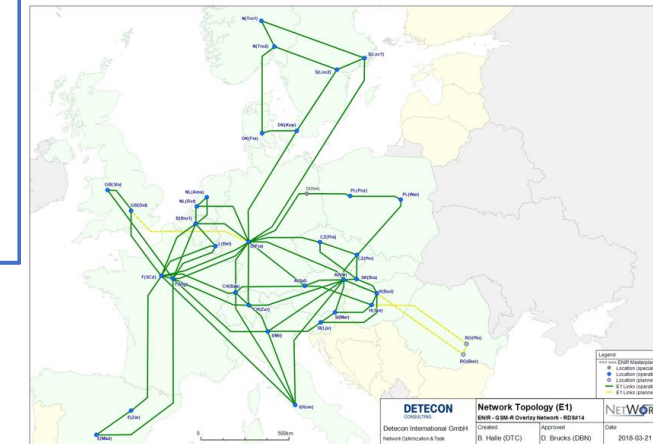
# The nationwide GSM-R network of DB InfraGO on more than 30.300 km of lines has to be migrated to FRMCS

Today more than 90% of the DB InfraGo railway lines are using GSM-R

- GSM-R fulfills the current rail operations requirements concerning voice and data for ETCS according to international standards
- International **GSM-R roaming** between **19 European railways** allows Europe-wide communications between trains and controllers, shunting teams, maintenance staff etc.
- **National roaming** with Telekom and **interconnection** with Telekom/Vodafone allows use of public networks as backup solution etc., communication to public networks and to the DB internal business voice network (VoIP)
- In Germany more than **30.300 km of lines** are equipped with GSM-R
- Around **4000 GSM-R base stations** are currently in operation
- Around **3.300 controller workplaces** are equipped with wireline dispatcher terminals
- Around **30.000 Cab Radios/EDORs** and around **77.000 Handhelds** are in use



1.) Current RDS#14 geographical GSM-R Overlay network overview



# Parallel operation of GSM-R and FRMCS allows “smooth” introduction of FRMCS, but needs to be limited

GSM-R technology will not be supported by industry after 2035!

FRMCS frequencies : EC / CEPT 2021 ✓

“Legal anchor” 5G for FRMCS : TSI in force 09/2023 ✓

FRMCS is necessary as connectivity basis for future digital railway!



The **migration** will be handled line by line and application by application

- Parallel operation of GSM-R and FRMCS on the lines and a
- dual mode functionality (GSM-R / FRMCS) on board is required



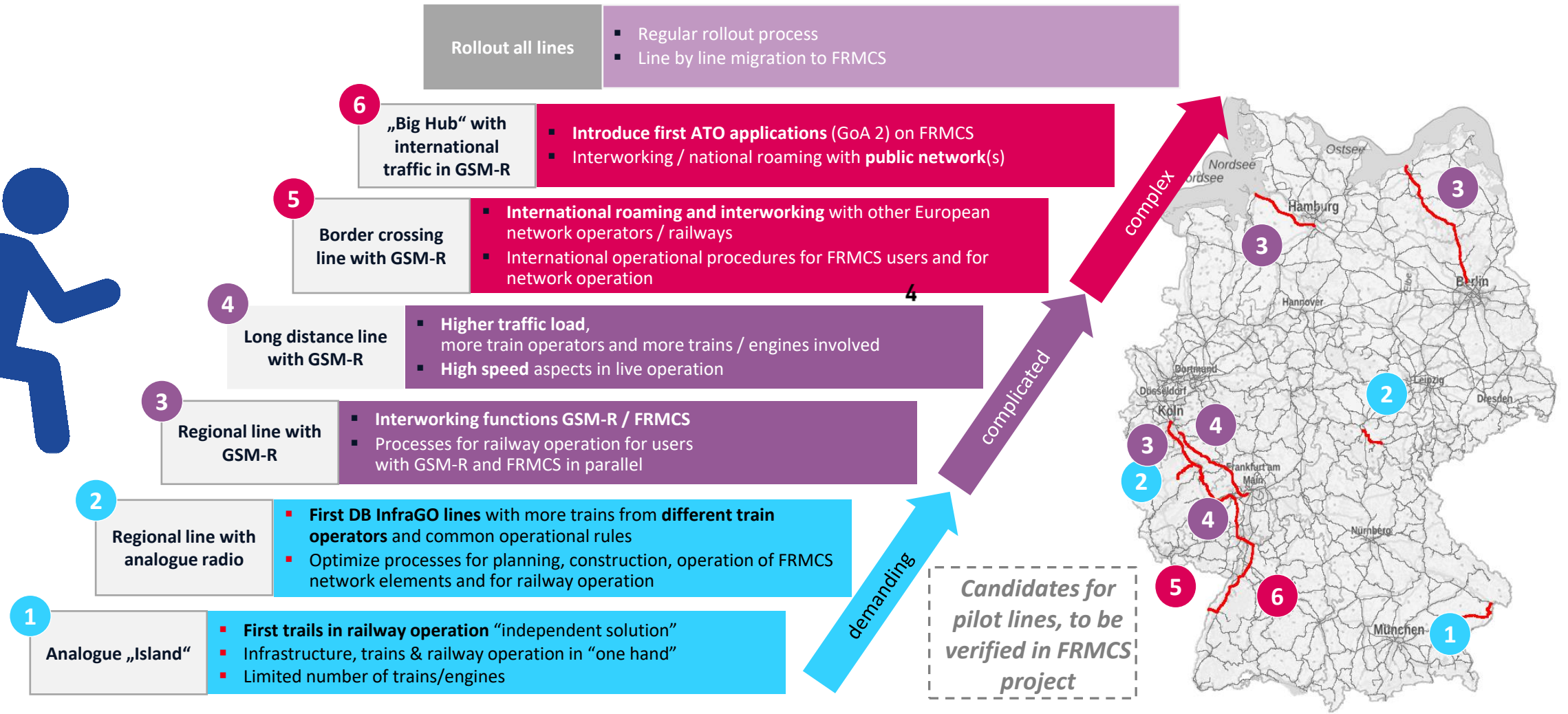
The **benefits** of FRMCS and digital railway operation shall be made **available** to rail operation and train operators **as soon as possible**

The **cost** of parallel operation of two networks shall be **reduced** line by line **as early as possible**

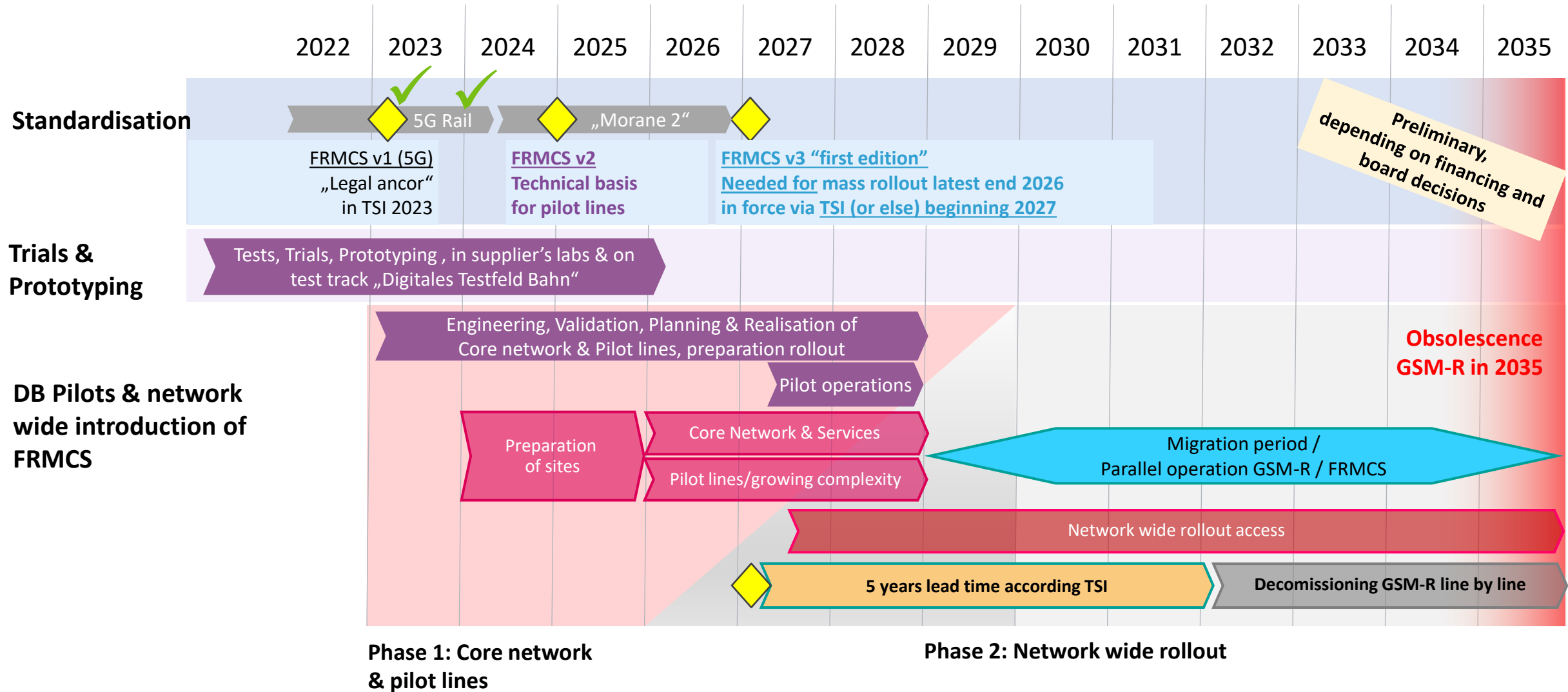


# Stepwise introduction of FRMCS into railway operation

## incorporates migration aspects from demanding to complex scenarios



# FRMCS introduction in Phase 1 till 2028 is very demanding, but only seven years remain for network wide rollout in Phase 2





## Norwegian Railway Directorate

- Advisor to the Ministry
- Long Term Planning
- Sector Coordination



## Bane NOR SF

- Infrastructure Manager



## Concept Appraisal (KVU) - Involvement and Process

- 2022-24
- Railway Directorate - Lead (1000 mh)
- Bane NOR - Crucial Contributor (4700 mh)
- Consultancy Assistance (2300 mh)
- Broad Sector Involvement/ Workshops
- Cooperation with Railway and Telecom Authorities
- Meetings with other Infra Managers
- Cooperation and RFI with 3 MNOs

## Norwegian State Project Model

All Public Expenditures > 1 BNOK (85 M€)

### Identified Needs

Conceptual appraisal  
(KVU)



QA1 (KS1)

### Government Decision

Pre-project



QA2 (KS2)

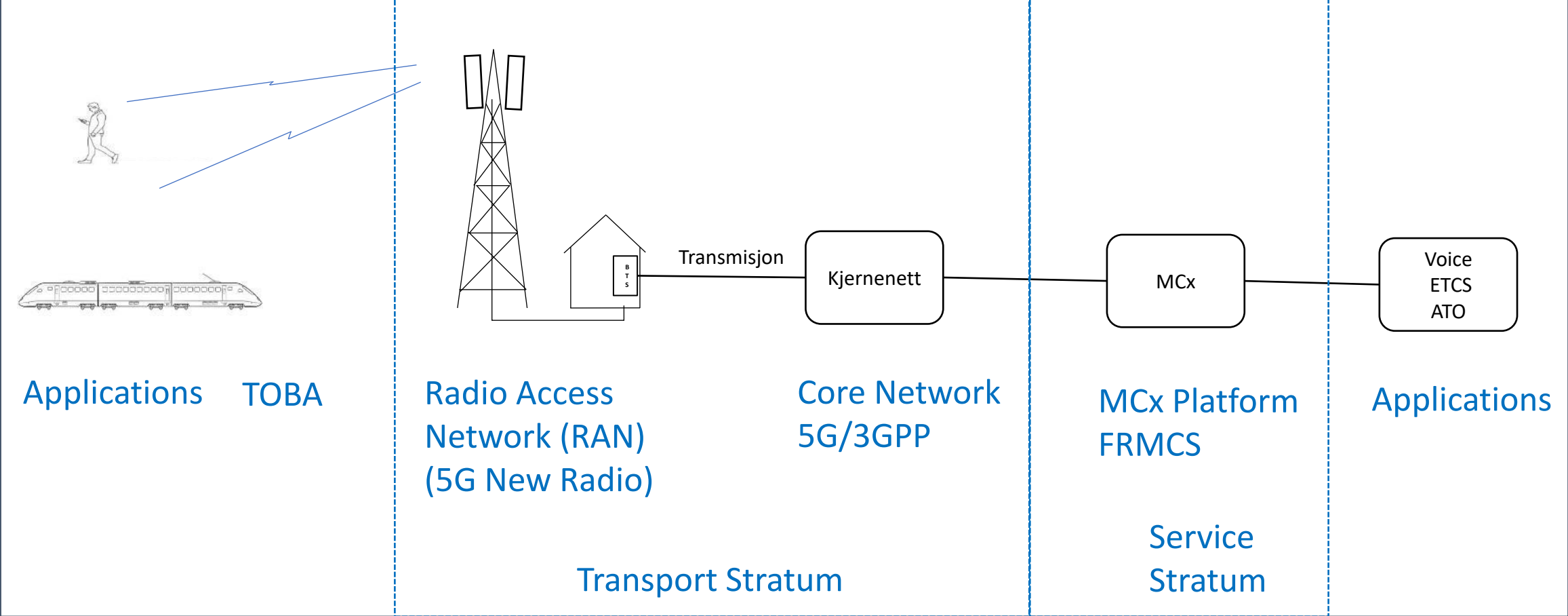
### Parliamentary Approval

Execution



Effects

# Possibilities - Feasibility - Alternatives

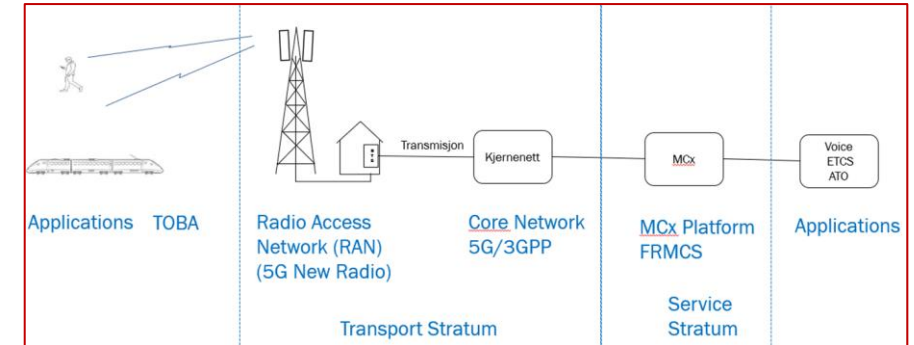


68 Combinations reduced to 6 Alternatives



# Analysis and Conclusion

Alt.	MCx	Transport CN+RAN	Freq.	Socio-eco Rank	
				Mon	Non-Mon
1	BN	BN	RMR	3	5
2	BN	MNO	RMR	2	6
3	BN	1 MNO	Comm	1	4
4	BN	BN+1 MNO	RMR+Co	6	3
5	BN	BN+3MNO	RMR+Co	5	2
6	BN	3 MNO	Comm	4	1



BN= Bane NOR (Infrastructure Manager)  
 RMR= Rail Mobile Radio Frequencies (TSI CCS 2023)  
 Comm.= Commercial frequencies, other than RMR  
 MNO= Mobile Network operator

Socio-economic Analysis: Ranking based on analysis of monetary and non monetary impacts:

Use of only MNOs and commercial frequencies (alt 3 and 6)

- Give highest socio-economic score
- Ensures fastest/ easiest implementation
- But cannot be recommended due to uncertainty about development of EU legislation

**Given that restriction: Alternative 4 is recommended (RMR + MNO redundancy)**

Conclusion confirmed by independent Quality Assurance (QA1)



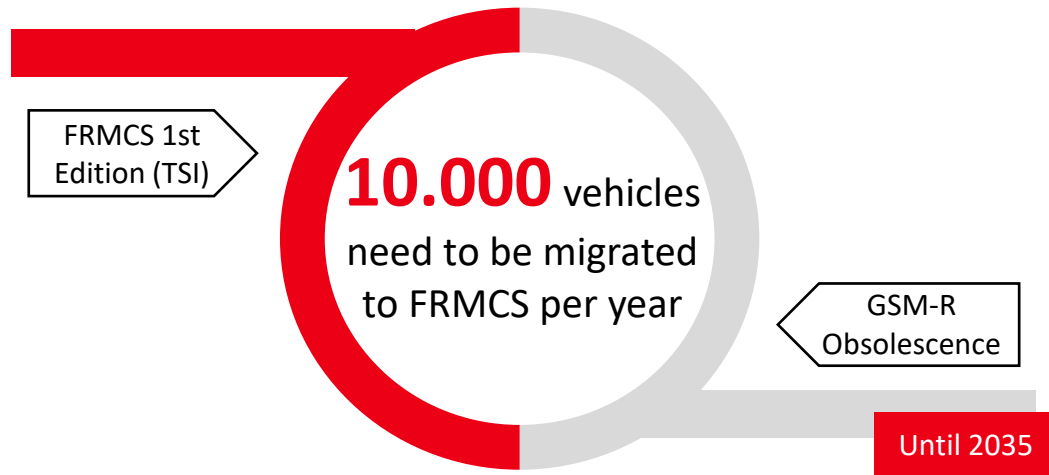


Thank You!



# Getting vehicle migration completed by 2035 is a huge challenge, migration preparation has to start now

## Situation



### Migration time is limited from both sides

1. **FRMCS product availability** depends on FRMCS validation project and final specifications. Products might not be available before 2029
2. **GSM-R obsolescence by 2035**, with possibility of first GSM-R phase out by 2032

\*) Assumed FRMCS product availability. Compliant ETCS products might not be available before 2030

\*\*) Number of vehicles: 65000 - Source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/453306/european-countries-number-of-locomotives-and-railcars/>

## Challenges

### Short time and parallel migration

in all European countries resulting in too huge a demand on e.g.

- Workshop capacity
- Engineering capacity
- Authorization capacity

Significant **cost** of migration without financing

**Coordination** between IM and RUs not clear

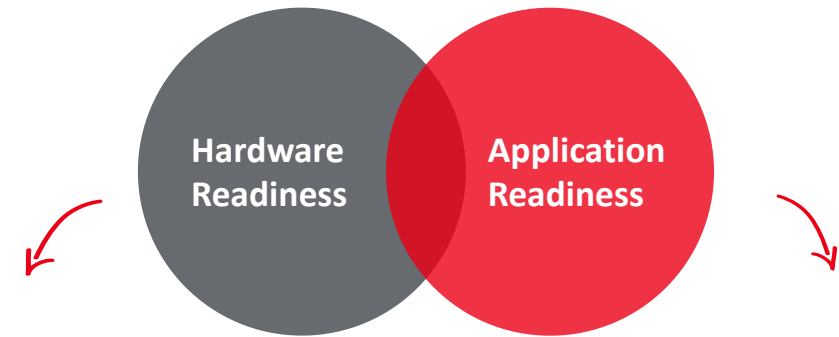


# Improvement of the migration timeline can be achieved by two levers: FRMCS hardware readiness and application readiness

## Challenge



## Possible solutions



Preparation of vehicles to allow a later FRMCS introduction ideally with a software update only

Applications using FRMCS:

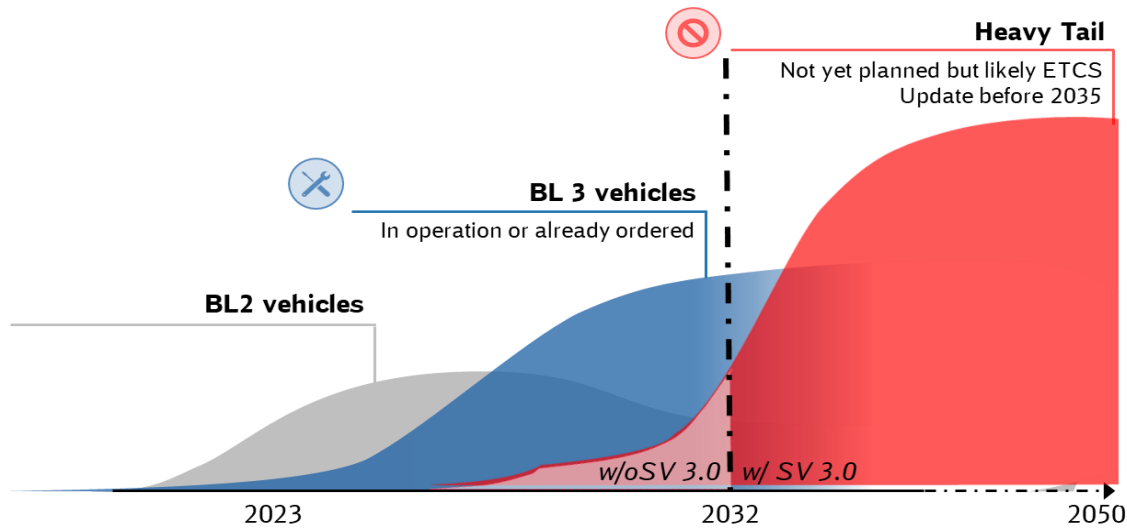
- already FRMCS compatible or
- software update without full new authorization possible

**TSI 2023 does not fully contain the detailed technical clarifications, however, this should not hinder hardware preparation of vehicles.**

Preparation can include e.g. space for FRMCS Gateway/Modems, cables, antennas.

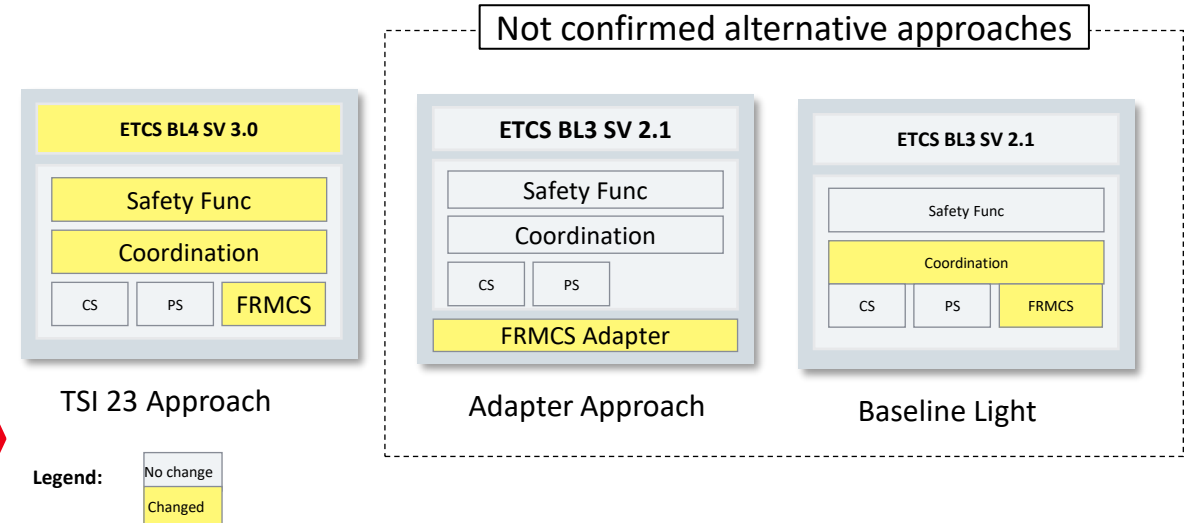
# ETCS onboard units with System Version below 3.0 do not support FRMCS. Time and cost challenge to achieve compatibility

## Problem Statement



- Today's vehicles are equipped with ETCS On board units with **system version (SV) <3.0 incompatible with FRMCS**
- TSI 23 introduces SV 3.0 as first onboard version supporting FRMCS
- ETCS products with SV 3.0 might **not be available before 2032**
- Number of vehicles with incompatible ETCS version continues to increase

## Dependencies & mitigation options



- Product availability depends on FRMCS 1st Edition (FRMCS v3)
- Achieving ETCS/FRMCS for vehicles with ETCS should be significantly **less complex than typical ETCS Upgrades SV 3.0** concerning fitment and new authorization
- Vehicles with new ETCS deployment before SV 3.0 product availability should support FRMCS **with a software update only and without complex reauthorization**



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### Workshop #8

How to successfully introduce FRMCS (the successor of GSM-R) on EU network and the vehicles?

Migration strategies and challenges



**Alexander Ende**  
UNITEL/Funkwerk  
Product Management  
Chairman UTG



**Michael Kloecker**  
UNITEL/Nokia  
Solution Management Railway

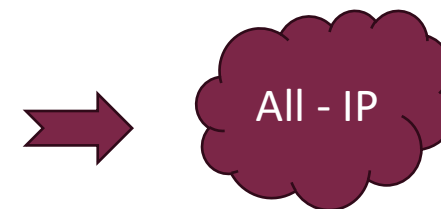


**Jorgen Mattisson**  
UNISIG/Alstom  
Network System Architect

# FRMCS Introduction and Migration for Application(s)

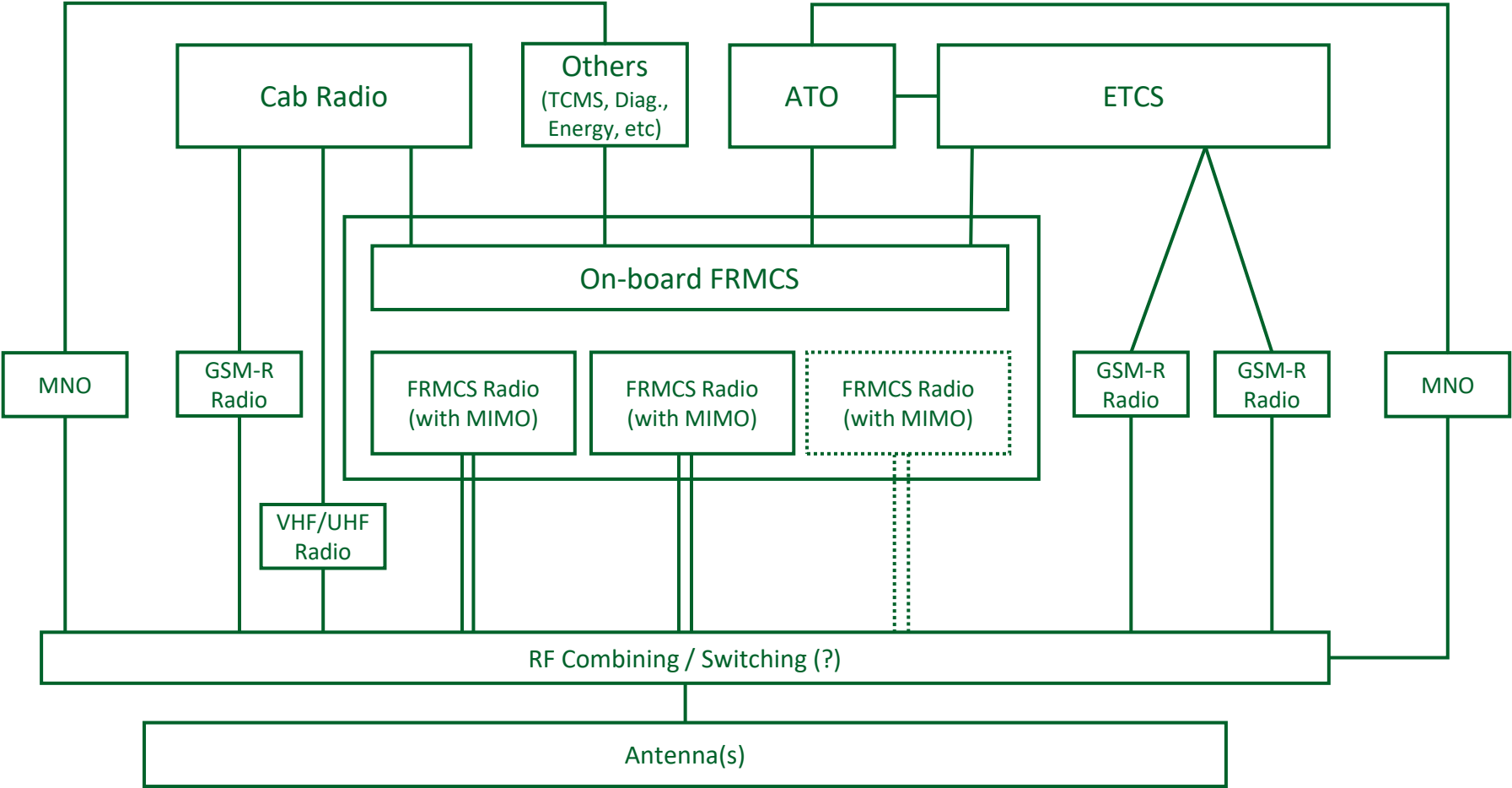
## FRMCS INFLUENCE ON ETCS

- Communication: Shared resource (FRMCS gateway) replacing dedicated communication
- Interface: Networking interfaces replacing serial/E1 interfaces
- Protocol: Standard IP protocols including improved security
- Application and system changes
  - ▶ Selection of communication system => Additional balise data
  - ▶ Use of security certificates => Need of public key infrastructure (PKI)
  - ▶ Use of shared resource => Loss of direct control of radio



# FRMCS Introduction and Migration for Vehicles

## ON-BOARD RADIO SYSTEMS FOR TRAIN OPERATION





# FRMCS based on 5G | Migration Strategies for Trackside

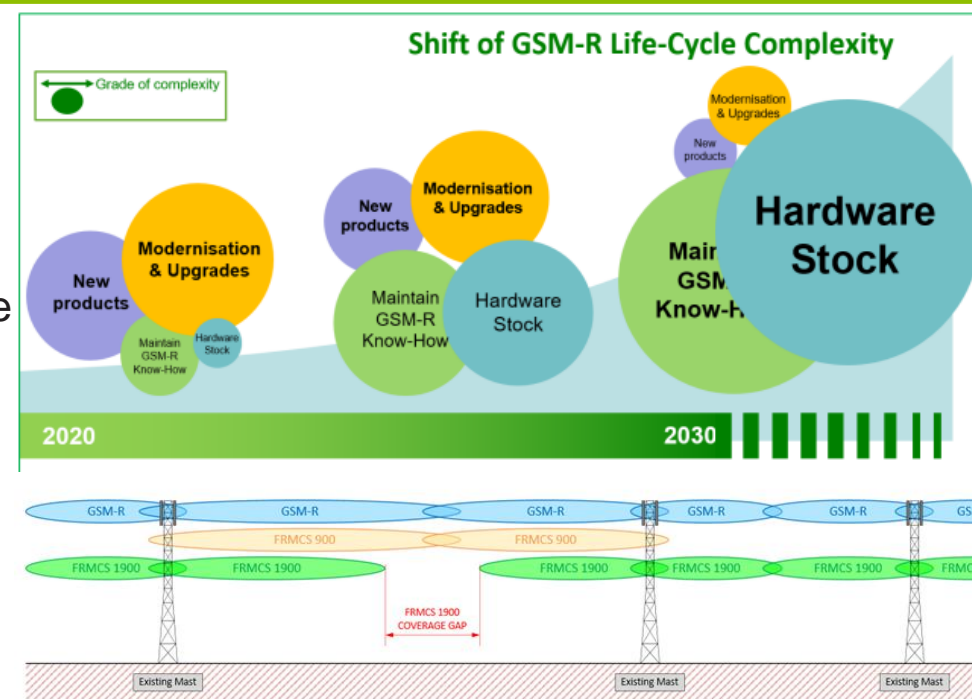
## FRMCS MIGRATION CHALLENGES & MITIGATIONS

### Migration challenges and strategies

- New technology -> specification, verification, certification
- Long migration period -> increasing effort and cost, GSM-R Lifecycle
- Efficient spectrum use during migration 900 (n100), 1900 (n101) GSM-R spectrum sharing
- Opportunities and challenges for MNO sharing
- Cyber security, market evolution

### Measure for fast and smooth FRMCS introduction in time

- Product and specification availability
- Rollout strategies aligned, resources optimized. Faster than TSI ?
- Network Preparation upfront (Sites, Core, Transmission)
- Life Cycle Management, automation, and certification

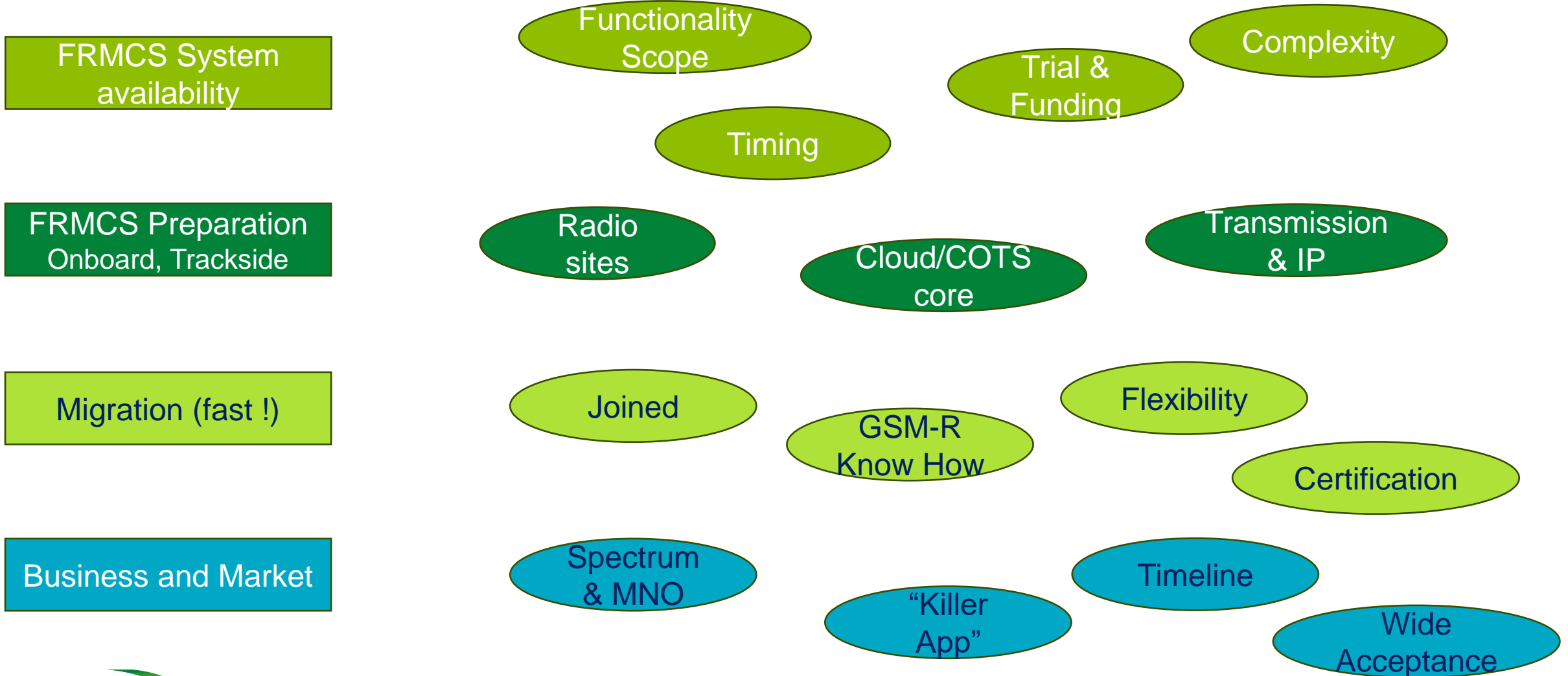


Source: UIC UGFA

### Business Case

- Timeline and scope : no uncertainty
- Industry to manage e2e ecos system
- Funding and trial alignment

# Food for thoughts....





# Thank you!

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[www.unife.org](http://www.unife.org)



UNIFE - The European Rail  
Supply Industry Association