European Railway Agency

Guide for the application of the WAG TSI


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1. SCOPE OF THIS GUIDE

1.1 Scope


The guide should be read and used only in conjunction with the WAG TSI. It is intended to facilitate its application, but does not replace it. The general part of the ‘Guide for the application of TSIs’ should also be considered.

1.2 Content of the guide

In section 2 of this document, extracts of the original text of the WAG TSI are provided in shaded text boxes which are followed by a text that gives guidance.

Guidance is not provided for in clauses where the original WAG TSI requires no further explanation.

Guidance is of voluntary application. It does not mandate any requirement in addition to those set out in the WAG TSI.

Guidance is given by means of further explanatory text and, where relevant, by reference to standards that demonstrate compliance with the WAG TSI. Relevant standards are listed in Appendix 1 of this document, and their purpose is indicated in the column ‘purpose’ of the table.

1.3 Reference documents

Reference documents are listed in the general part of the ‘Guide for the application of TSIs’.

1.4 Definitions and abbreviations

Definitions and abbreviations are given in the general part of the ‘Guide for the application of TSIs’.
2. EXPLANATIONS ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WAG TSI

2.1 Chapter 1: Introduction

Section 1.2: Geographical scope

‘The geographical scope of this TSI is the network of the whole rail system, composed of:

— the trans-European conventional rail system network (TEN) as described in Annex I section 1.1 ‘Network’ of Directive 2008/57/EC,
— the trans-European high-speed rail system network (TEN) as described in Annex I section 2.1 ‘Network’ of Directive 2008/57/EC,
— other parts of the network of the whole rail system, following the extension of scope as described in Annex I section 4 of Directive 2008/57/EC,

and excludes the cases referred to in Article 1(3) of Directive 2008/57/EC.’

A wagon complying with the TSI may be placed in service for the entire network of a Member State belonging to the European Union’s rail system including conventional rail TEN lines, high-speed rail TEN lines and non-TEN lines (cases detailed in Article 1(3) of the Directive are excluded from the geographical scope). No other authorisation is needed. Nevertheless the RU is still responsible for establishing the compatibility between the wagon and the line the wagon is intended to travel on. The geographical scope of the TSI includes the extension of scope.

2.2. Chapter 2: Scope and definition of subsystem

‘(a) A ‘unit’ is the generic term used to name the rolling stock. It is subject to the application of this TSI, and therefore subject to the EC verification procedure.

A unit can consist of:

— a ‘wagon’ that can be operated separately, featuring an individual frame mounted on its own set of wheels, or
— a rake of permanently connected ‘elements’, those elements cannot be operated separately, or
— ‘separate rail bogies connected to compatible road vehicle(s)’ the combination of which forms a rake of a rail compatible system.’

The following figures 1, 2, 3 and 4 clarify these definitions.
Figure 1: Example of a unit consisting of a (freight) wagon that can be operated separately, featuring an individual frame mounted on its own set of wheels.

Figure 2: Example 1 of a unit consisting of a rake of permanently connected two elements (blue and orange), those elements cannot be operated separately (articulated wagon).
Figure 3: Example 2 of a unit consisting of a rake of permanently connected two elements, those elements cannot be operated separately.

Figure 4: Example 3 of a unit consisting of a rake of permanently connected elements, those elements cannot be operated separately (self-discharging train).
2.3. Chapter 3: Essential requirements

The essential requirements 1.3.1, 1.4.1, 1.4.3, 1.4.4 and 1.4.5 of Annex III of the Directive 2008/57/EC fall under the scope of other Union legislation.

The following essential requirements have not been dealt with at all within the drafting process of the WAG TSI because they are in the scope of other mandatory EU legislation:

1.3.1 Materials likely, by virtue of the way they are used, to constitute a health hazard to those having access to them must not be used in trains and railway infrastructures. (Directive 2006/42/EC on machinery).

1.4.1 The environmental impact of establishment and operation of the rail system must be assessed and taken into account at the design stage of the system in accordance with the Community provisions in force. (Council Directive 85/337/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment).

1.4.3 The rolling stock and energy-supply systems must be designed and manufactured in such a way as to be electromagnetically compatible with the installations, equipment and public or private networks with which they might interfere. (Directive 2004/108/EC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to electromagnetic compatibility).

1.4.4 The design and operation of the rail system must not lead to an inadmissible level of noise generated by it:
   – in areas close to railway infrastructure, as defined in Article 3 of Directive 2012/34/EU, and
   – in the driver’s cab. (Commission Regulation (EU) No 1304/2014 on the technical specification for interoperability relating to the subsystem ‘rolling stock – noise’).

1.4.5 Operation of the rail system must not give rise to an inadmissible level of ground vibrations for the activities and areas close to the infrastructure and in a normal state of maintenance. (Directive 2002/44/EC on the minimum health and safety requirements regarding the exposure of workers to the risks arising from physical agents (vibration)).
2.4. Chapter 4: Characterisation of the subsystem

Section 4.1: Introduction

‘The rail system, to which the Directive 2008/57/EC applies and of which freight wagons form a part, is an integrated system whose consistency shall be verified. This consistency shall be checked in particular with regard to the specifications of the rolling stock subsystem and the compatibility with the network (section 4.2), its interfaces in relation to the other subsystems of the rail system in which it is integrated (sections 4.2 and 4.3), as well as the initial operating and maintenance rules (sections 4.4 and 4.5) as requested by Article 18(3) of Directive 2008/57/EC.

The technical file, as set out in Article 18(3) and Annex VI to Directive 2008/57/EC (section 4.8), shall contain in particular design related values concerning the compatibility with the network.’

The WAG TSI covers the harmonisation of all subsystem-related

- basic parameters necessary to achieve interoperability and safe integration including the
- basic parameters needed for the RU to establish together with the IM the compatibility of a unit with the network.

The WAG TSI sets out in addition how the values of the compatibility relevant basic parameters must be determined (calculation method, tests, simulations). Concerning the safe integration the applicant has to compile the initial documentation containing in particular all the elements relating to the conditions and limits of use and to the instructions concerning servicing, constant or routine monitoring, adjustment and maintenance. This documentation has to accompany the unit and enables the RUs to take their responsibility concerning the safe operation as per article 4(3) of the Safety Directive and the OPE TSI.

The process of establishing the compatibility with infrastructure may be centralised, performed once giving restrictions of use line per line, or performed for each time slot allocated by the infrastructure manager. Whichever is the case, the railway undertaking has to control that all the wagons in its train composition are capable and suitable of going on the line the train is slotted for in respect of loading (axle load), loading gauge, brake performance (brake weight), etc.
Point 4.2.2.1.1: End coupling and

Point 4.2.2.1.2: Inner coupling

‘End couplings shall be resilient and capable of withstanding the forces in accordance with the defined design operating state of the unit.’

‘The inner coupling shall be resilient and capable of withstanding the forces in accordance with the defined design operating state of the unit. The joint between two elements sharing the same running gear, is covered by point 4.2.2.2.

The longitudinal strength of the inner coupling(s) shall be equal to or higher than the one of the end coupling(s) of the unit.’

The input parameters coming from the intended operation of the wagon (e.g. train weight, acceleration/deceleration of the train, etc.) determines the load (dynamic traction and compressive forces, etc.) the coupling must be designed for. The longitudinal direction is to be taken as the travel direction of the train.

Point 4.2.2.3: Integrity of the unit

‘The unit shall be designed so that all movable parts intended to close an aperture (access doors, tarpaulin, lids, hatches, etc.) are prevented against an unintentional movement of these parts.’

The naturally triggered movement of the tarpaulins, e.g. through fair wind, is excluded from ‘unintentional movement’.

Point 4.2.3.1: Gauging

‘The compliance of a unit with the intended reference profile including the reference profile for the lower part shall be established by one of the methods set out in EN 15273-2:2009.’

‘The kinematic method, as described in EN 15273-2:2009, shall be used to establish, if any, between the reference profile established for the unit and the respective target reference profiles G1, GA, GB and GC including those used for the lower part GIC1 and GIC2.’

The compliance with the requirements is used by the RU for the establishment of the compatibility with the infrastructure.

This compliance shall be proven in any case, not only for the interoperable gauges.
Point 4.2.3.3: Compatibility with train detection systems

‘If the unit is intended to be compatible with one or more of the following train detection systems, this compatibility shall be established according to the provisions of the Commission Decision 2012/88/EU.
(a) Train detection systems based on track circuits.
…’


Points 4.2.3.5.1 and 6.2.2.2: Safety against derailment running on twisted track

‘The demonstration of conformity shall be carried out either in accordance with:
— the procedure defined in section 4.1 of EN 14363:2005, or
— the method given in section 4.2 of EN 15839:2012 by using the pre-calculation for standardised solutions.’

The method set out in EN 15839:2012 is an exemption from both testing and calculations and may be used if certain given conditions are met regarding bogie parameters and bogie type and the wheel flange angle.

Points 4.2.3.5.2 and 6.2.2.3: Running dynamic behaviour

‘The running dynamic behaviour of a unit shall be proven either by
— following the procedures set out in Chapter 5 of EN 14363:2005, or
— performing simulations using a validated model.’

‘Alternatively, under the conditions stated in section 9.3 of EN 15827:2011, a simulation may replace the above mentioned on-track tests.’

The TSI sets out several possibilities to verify the running capability of a wagon as set out in figure 5.
Figure 5: Flow chart of all the possibilities to prove the running safety in the TSI

Running safety (cl 4.2 of the TSI)

- Assessment of subsystem (cl 6.2.2.3 of the TSI)
- Assessment of IC running gear (cl 6.1.2.1 of the TSI)

- Tests (EN 14363)
- Simulations (EN 15827)
- Qualification of a running gear (App B.2)
- Established running gear (list in 6.1.2.1) EN 16235

In addition there is a procedure to qualify the running gear as established running gear.

Simulations are to be performed by using validated models. The validation of a model assumes that on-track testing was initially performed and the data compared with results from the simulation model and the model subsequently modified in order to establish a validated simulation model (see figure 6).

Figure 6: Simulations

The principle of the procedure to qualify the running gear as being established is explained in figure 7. The procedure comprises of validating a range of wagon characteristics for a certain type of running gear (which thereby will become established). The validation means that on-track tests are performed using the to-be-established running gear on two wagons with different characteristics or parameters. The established running gear can thereby be used on wagons meeting the characteristics the running gear was validated for (area of use).
Figure 7: Validation of a broader range for use following testing

EN14363

Tested parameter space

Allowed range of parameter variation when $\lambda \geq 1,1$

The present standard

Allowed range of parameter variation when $\lambda \geq 1,0$

Tested parameter space, test one

Tested parameter space, test two

A wagon equipped with running gears belonging to the list of established ones and which are described in detail in EN 16235, is considered to meet the requirements of running safety as long as the wagon characteristics remain inside the validated range / area for use of the running gear.

‘The combination of the highest equivalent conicity and speed for which the unit meets the stability criterion in clause 5 of EN 14363:2005 shall be recorded in the report.’

The recorded combination of the highest equivalent conicity and speed as required in Appendix B.1 enables the implementation of operational measures where necessary due to infrastructure characteristics.

Points 4.2.3.6.2 and 6.1.2.2: Characteristics of wheelsets

‘The demonstration of conformity for the mechanical behaviour of the wheelset assembly shall be carried out according to clause 3.2.1 of EN 13260:2009+A1:2010, which defines limit values for the axial assembly force and the associated verification test.’
The requirement of the wheelset mechanical behaviour of the assembly as expressed in the TSI is intended to ensure the ability of ‘transmitting a torque between the fitted elements’ as stated in EN 13260 clause 3.2.1.

‘A verification procedure shall exist to ensure at the assembly phase that no defects may detrimentally affect safety due to any change in the mechanical characteristics of the fitted parts of the axle.’

It is required that the permissible fatigue limits which are assumed for the axle design by application of EN 13260 and EN 13261 are verified in the assembly phase in case there are changes introduced in the assembly process.

Points 4.2.3.6.3 and 6.1.2.3: Characteristics of wheels

‘The mechanical characteristics of the wheels shall ensure the transmission of forces and torque as well as the resistance against thermal load where so required in accordance with the area of use.’

‘(a) …

If the wheel is intended to be used with brake blocks acting on the wheel running surface, the wheel shall be thermo mechanically proven by taking into account the maximum braking energy foreseen.’

According to the mentioned clauses the wheel should be resistant against thermal effects - requirements on thermal aspects of the interoperability constituent ‘wheel’ are herewith specified and assessment is performed according to point 6.1.2.3. Furthermore, in accordance with point 4.2.4.3.3, the brake equipment should be able to withstand one emergency brake application without any loss of brake performance due to thermal effects - requirements on thermal aspects of the brake at the level of the subsystem are therefore defined and assessment is performed according to point 6.2.2.6.

ERA technical document ERA/TD/2013-02/INT additionally specifies in chapter 9 the voluntary performance of a ‘locked brake test’ of a friction element for wheel tread brakes (according to FprEN 16452:2014). The objective of this test is to determine from the temperature of a wheel tread measured after being braked by defined brake force during defined time the conformity/non conformity of the friction element. This test represents a possibility for the friction element manufacturer to test thermal aspects of the friction element in addition to the mandatory verification, as specified in the previous paragraph, of thermal aspects of wheels (by the wheels manufacturer) and the brake system of the wagon (by the applicant). If the manufacturer of the
friction element decides to perform this additional test he has to record the evidence of it in the technical documentation as part of the area of use.

\[
\text{(a) Forged and rolled wheels: The mechanical characteristics shall be proven following the procedure as specified in clause 7 of EN 13979-1:2003+A1:2009+A2:2011.}
\]

The wheel is required to be designed following the methodology set out in EN 13979-1 clause 7 which requires calculations to be performed and subsequent tests if design criteria are not met.

For tread braked wheels the requirements of EN 13979-1:2003+A1:2009 clause 6.2.1 are fulfilled only by using the values of table C.2.

The design criteria, the permissible range of dynamic stress, are defined for forged and rolled wheels. The test to be performed in case of exceeding the criteria is a bench test where it is required that no fatigue cracks must be observed after the test.

\[
\text{(a) …}
\]

\[
\text{The decision criteria of residual stresses for forged and rolled wheels are set out in EN 13979-1:2003+A1:2009+A2:2011.}
\]

The decision criteria of the thermo mechanical behaviour of wheels for materials other than ER6 and ER7 which are presented in EN 13979-1 have to be extrapolated from known data. Furthermore, any other type of wheel than those set out in the TSI, are permitted for (and restricted to) national use.

\[
\text{‘A verification procedure shall exist to ensure at the production phase that no defects may adversely affect safety due to any change in the mechanical characteristics of the wheels.’}
\]

The wheel is considered to be a safety relevant component which needs to be checked and controlled, not only for the design criteria, but also for ensuring end quality of the product. EN 13262 sets out the verification procedure to be followed for the parameters stated in the TSI; the material characteristics and the number of samples to be checked in production, the procedures to follow for any changes in the design of the axle or changes of manufacturer of the material of the axle, etc.

The verification of the fatigue characteristics of the wheel material, as set out in the TSI, is only intended to be performed if there is a change of supplier of the raw material for the production of the wheel or there are any changes to the manufacturing process or the design of the wheel is appreciably changed.
Points 4.2.3.6.4 and 6.1.2.4: Characteristics of axles

‘In addition to the requirement on the assembly above, the demonstration of conformity of the mechanical resistance and fatigue characteristics of the axle shall be based on Clauses 4, 5 and 6 of EN13103:2009 + A2:2012. The decision criteria for the permissible stress are specified in Clause 7 of EN 13103:2009 + A2:2012.’

The verification of the axle is supposed to be done by calculation as set out in EN 13103 which defines the load cases to consider, the specific calculation methods for the design of the axle and the decision criteria, the permissible stress, for steel grade EA1N and the methodology for arriving to permissible stress with other materials.

‘A verification procedure shall exist to ensure at the production phase that no defects may adversely affect safety due to any change in the mechanical characteristics of the axles. The tensile strength of the material in the axle, the resistance to impact, the surface integrity, the material characteristics and the material cleanliness shall be verified. The verification procedure shall specify the batch sampling used for each characteristic to be verified.’

The axle is considered a safety relevant component which needs to be checked and controlled, not only for the design criteria, but also for ensuring end quality of the product. EN 13261 sets out the verification procedure to be followed for the parameters stated in the TSI; the number of samples to be checked in production, the procedures to follow for any changes in the design of the axle or changes of manufacturer of the material of the axle, etc.

Points 4.2.3.6.7 and 6.2.2.5: Running gear for manual change of wheelsets

‘Changeover between 1 435 mm and 1 668 mm track gauges

The technical solutions described in the following figures of the UIC leaflet 430-1:2012 are deemed to be compliant with the requirements in point 4.2.3.6.7:
— for axle units: Figures 9 and 10 of Annex B.4, and Figure 18 of Annex H of UIC leaflet 430-1:2012,
— for bogie units: Figure 18 of Annex H of UIC leaflet 430-1:2012.

Changeover between 1 435 mm and 1 524 mm track gauges

The technical solution described in Appendix 7 of UIC leaflet 430-3:1995 is deemed to be compliant with the requirements in point 4.2.3.6.7.’
At the present time only one approach for the manual change of wheelsets exists. The requirements concerning the interface between the unit and the current facilities carrying out the manual change of wheelsets can be found in UIC leaflet 430-1:2012 (1 435 mm/1 668 mm) and in UIC leaflet 430-3:1995 (1 435 mm/1 524 mm).

Should alternatives become available these will be addressed within the revision of this Application Guide.

Point 4.2.4.2: Brake - Safety requirements

‘The braking system contributes to the safety level of the railway system. Therefore the design of the braking system of a unit has to undergo a risk assessment in accordance with the Commission Regulation (EC) No 352/2009 considering the hazard of complete loss of the brake capability of the unit. The severity level shall be deemed as catastrophic when:

— it affects the unit alone (combination of failures), or
— it affects the brake capability of more than the unit (single fault).

The fulfilment of the conditions of C.9 and C.14 of Appendix C is presumed to be in conformity with this requirement.’

The brake system contributes significantly to the safety level of the railway system. Therefore point 4.2.4.2 of the TSI requires a risk assessment in accordance with Commission Regulation 352/2009 on risk evaluation and assessment (CSM regulation). The risk assessment is based on the following commonly accepted risk acceptance principles:

- The application of codes of practice and/or
- A comparison of the brake system under assessment with a similar brake system and/or
- An explicit risk estimation.

The applicant/proposer may choose which of the principles he wants to apply.

The hazard to be covered by this risk assessment is the complete loss of the brake capability of the unit. The following two scenarios are required to be controlled:

1. The failure or combination of failures is affecting only the brake capability of the unit itself.
2. One single failure leads to a loss of the brake capability of another unit or of other units in a train.
Both scenarios are allocated to the severity level ‘catastrophic’ what means that the associated risk does not have to be reduced further if the rate of that failure or combination of failures is less than or equal to $10^{-9}$ per operating hour. All failures and the causes which may lead to one of these scenarios are to be analysed and identified.

The CSM regulation in its Article 7(1) obliges the assessment body to provide the applicant/proposer with a safety assessment report which must contain e.g. all made assumptions.

The applicant has to record in the technical file all corresponding operating and maintenance rules which shall be met (see section 4.4 and 4.5 of the TSI) in order to control the given scenarios. This information enables the RUs and ECMs to take their responsibility in accordance with Article 4(3) of Directive 2004/49/EC.

One possibility to carry out the risk assessment can be the application of code of practise, such as the CENELEC standards EN 50126, EN 50128 and EN 50129, or some others, including the compliance with their applicable ‘reliability, availability maintainability and safety (RAMS)’ requirements. In this case the corresponding RAMS performance must be recorded in the technical file as well.

The Brake block

The brake block (i.e. friction element for wheel tread brakes) is a part of the brake system and is assessed together with it. Therefore the proposer/applicant has to follow the CSM approach also for the brake block. The corresponding code of practise must be considered as applied if brake blocks:

- are part of those listed in Appendix G of the TSI, or
- fulfill the requirements set out in point 4.2.4.3.5 and are assessed in accordance with the procedure set out in point 6.1.2.5 of the TSI.

Point 4.2.4.3.2: Brake - Brake performance

> 'The brake performance of a unit shall be calculated in accordance with one of the following documents:
> — EN 14531-6:2009, or

The calculation shall be validated by tests. Brake performance calculation in accordance with UIC 544-1 shall be validated as set out in UIC 544-1:2013.'
A brake performance calculation performed in accordance with the UIC leaflet 544-1 has to be validated as set out in the UIC leaflet. The UIC leaflet describes some exemptions, therefore tests are not always necessary.

Point 4.2.4.3.3: Brake - Thermal capacity

‘The braking equipment shall be able to withstand one emergency brake application without any loss of brake performance due to thermal or mechanical effects.’

The essential requirement is fulfilled as soon as the wagon complies with this requirement. The operative rules, depending on the design of the wagon, have to set out how to continue following a standstill after an emergency brake application. It could be necessary to check the brake equipment or to take time restrictions into account before the train is allowed to continue its journey (risk: immediate second emergency brake).

This requirement on thermal aspects of the brake equipment is defined at the level of the subsystem. It means that if the brake system requires friction elements for wheel tread brakes, the friction elements should comply because they are part of the brake.

‘A slope of 21 ‰ at 70 km/h during 40 km may be considered as the reference case for the thermal capacity which results in a braking power of 45 kW per wheel during 34 minutes for a nominal wheel diameter of 920 mm and an axle load of 22,5 t.’

The requirement allows for any thermal capacity of the brake equipment. The reference case sets out a combination of values considered to be representative for a major part of the European network. The fulfilment of the brake components with the reference case is to be recorded in the technical file and in ERATV.

Point 4.2.4.3.4: Brake - Wheel slide protection

‘The following types of units shall be fitted with WSP:
– types of units equipped with all types of brake blocks except composite brake blocks, for which the maximum mean utilisation of adhesion is greater than 0,12.’

The maximum mean utilisation of adhesion is the maximum mean utilisation of adhesion after response time (in accordance with EN 14478, clause 4.4.5) considering the speed range between 30 km/h and maximum intended operating speed of the wagon.
Points 4.2.4.3.5 and 6.1.2.5: Friction elements for wheel tread brakes

“The demonstration of conformity of friction elements for wheel tread brakes shall be carried out by determining the following friction element properties in accordance with ERA technical document ERA/TD/2013-02/INT version 2.0 of 15.12.2014 published on the ERA website (http://www.era.europa.eu):

— dynamic friction performance (chapter 4);
— static friction coefficient (chapter 5);
— mechanical characteristics including properties in respect with shear strength test and flexural strength test (chapter 6).

Demonstration of the following suitabilities shall be carried out in accordance with chapters 7 and/or 8 of the ERA technical document ERA/TD/2013-02/INT version 2.0 of 15.12.2014 published on the ERA website (http://www.era.europa.eu), if the friction element is intended to be suitable for:

— train detection by systems based on track circuits; and/or
— severe environmental conditions.’

The tests specified in chapters 4, 5 and 6 of the ERA technical document ERA/TD/2013-02/INT are mandatory. The results of these tests have to be recorded in the technical documentation in order to define the area of use of a friction element for wheel tread brakes.

Tests specified in chapters 7 ‘Suitability for train detection by systems based on track circuits’ and 8 ‘Suitability for severe environmental conditions’ are not mandatory. It is up to the manufacturer of the friction element to decide whether his product should be suitable for train detection by systems based on track circuits and/or severe environmental conditions and to perform these tests accordingly. If these tests are not performed, the friction element is considered as ‘not suitable’.

Please refer to section 2.11 of this Application Guide for further information on the ERA technical document ERA/TD/2013-02/INT.

‘If a manufacturer does not have sufficient return of experience (according with its own judgment) for the proposed design, the type validation by in-service experience procedure (module CV) shall be part of the assessment procedure for suitability for use. Before commencing in-service tests, a suitable module (CB or CH1) shall be used to certify the design of the interoperability constituent.’

The manufacturer has the ultimate responsibility to meeting all the essential requirements applicable to a friction element. The WAG TSI further specifies in-service
testing mandatory if he hasn’t got sufficient return of experience for the proposed design of the friction element. The notion of return of experience is to be understood in this context. The manufacturer is the best placed actor to decide (under his sole responsibility) on its own maturity taking into account the area of use of the friction element on the one hand and the previous experience with similar types of friction elements on the other hand. The manufacturer may use the CSM Regulation for this purpose.

According to Decision 2010/713/EU it is the manufacturer who defines the programme for validation of a friction element by in-service experience using module CV. Annex V of FprEN 16452:2014 may be taken as reference. The provisions of this annex may be altered by the manufacturer taken into account the area of use of the friction element and the level of experience that the manufacturer possesses with similar designs of friction elements. The objective of in-service testing is to perform the tests under real conditions and tailored to match the area of use of the friction element.

Point 4.2.5: Environmental conditions

The design of the unit, as well as its constituents shall take into account the environmental conditions to which this rolling stock will be subjected to.

The environmental parameters are described in the clauses below. For each environmental parameter, a nominal range is defined, which is the most commonly encountered in Europe, and is the basis for the interoperable unit.

For certain environmental parameters ranges other than the nominal one are defined. In that case, a range shall be selected for the design of the unit.

For the functions identified in the clauses below, design and/or testing provisions taken to ensure that the rolling stock is meeting the TSI requirements in this range shall be described in the technical file.

Depending on the ranges selected and on provisions taken (described in the technical file), appropriate operating rules could be necessary when the unit designed for the nominal range is operated on a particular line where the nominal range is exceeded at certain periods of the year.

The ranges, if different from the nominal one, to be selected to avoid any restrictive operating rule(s) linked to environmental conditions, are specified by the Member States and are listed in section 7.4.

The unit and its constituents shall be designed under consideration of one or several of the following external air temperature ranges

- $T_1$: –25 °C to +40 °C (nominal),
- $T_2$: –40 °C to +35 °C, and
- $T_3$: –25 °C to +45 °C.
The unit shall meet the requirements of this TSI without degradation for snow, ice and hail conditions as defined in clause 4.7 of EN 50125-1:1999, which correspond to the nominal range.

Where more severe ‘snow, ice and hail’ conditions are selected, the unit and its constituents shall then be designed to meet TSI requirements considering the combined effect with low temperature according to the temperature range chosen.

In relation with the temperature range T2 and with the severe conditions for snow, ice and hail, the provisions taken to meet TSI requirements in these severe conditions shall be identified and verified, in particular design and/or testing provisions considering the following functions:

— Coupling function, restricted to the resiliency of couplings.
— Brake function, including brake equipment.’

The TSI mandates that environmental conditions of temperature and snow/ice/hail are taken into account in the design of the wagon. Therefore nominal conditions are set out (temperature range T1 and snow/ice/hail conditions in EN 50125-1).

However, a few MSs have concerns because they meet more severe conditions in some periods of the year. To cover that, severe conditions are specified for the parameters temperature and snow/ice/hail. Concerning the temperature, the ranges T2 (–40 °C to +35 °C) and T3 (–25 °C to +45 °C) have been introduced, concerning the snow/ice/hail conditions the WAG TSI refers to section 7.4 in case of more severe conditions than those set out in EN 50125-1.

The design and the assessment of a wagon may be completely assessed under nominal conditions or under consideration of one or both of the severe conditions.

The provisions in design and/or in testing taken to meet the chosen conditions are to be reported in the technical file and can be used to establish operating rules e.g. operating rules to take into account the more severe conditions during certain periods of the year in certain MSs.

For unrestricted access concerning the environmental conditions in the MS concerned the conditions set out in section 7.4 of the WAG TSI have to be fulfilled.

The term ‘coupling function’ in the TSI text covers the function of drawing and buffing equipment.

Point 4.2.6.1.1: Fire safety - General

‘All significant potential fire sources (high risk components) on the unit shall be
identified. The fire safety aspects of the unit design shall be aimed at:
— preventing a fire from occurring,
— limiting the effects if a fire occurs.

The goods carried on the unit are not part of the unit and do not have to be taken into account in the conformity assessment.

Significant potential fire sources and high risk components include: contact surfaces of brake blocks, tanks containing flammable liquids, electrical equipment (including cables), combustion engines, heat exchanging equipment like air-conditioning systems.

The fire safety requirements in this TSI are not aimed at the transport of dangerous goods. In case of dangerous goods carried on freight wagons, RID requirements shall be applied in all aspects of fire safety.

Point 4.2.6.1.2.1: Fire safety - Barriers

‘In order to limit the effects of fire, fire barriers with integrity of at least 15 minutes shall be installed between the identified potential fire sources (high risk components) and the carried load.’

2mm thick steel sheet and 5mm thick aluminium sheet are deemed to comply with the 15 minutes integrity requirement without testing.

Main source for fire on wagons are brake blocks. According to that, constructions in accordance with UIC leaflets 430-1 and 543 collect elements to be fitted above wheels, give presumption of conformity to the requirement in point 4.2.6.1.2.1 Barriers, for area above the brake blocks.

Points 4.2.6.1.2.2 and 6.2.2.8.2: Fire safety - Materials

‘All permanent materials used on the unit shall have limited ignitability and flame spread properties, unless:
— the material is separated from all potential fire risks on the unit by a fire barrier and the safe application is supported by a risk assessment, or
— the component has a mass < 400 g, and is located within a horizontal distance of ≥ 40 mm and a vertical distance of ≥ 400 mm to other non-tested components.’
The expression in point 4.2.6.1.2.2 ‘the component has a mass less than 400 g’ refers to the mass of the material without proven limited ignitability resp. which is not mentioned in the list of point 6.2.2.8.2 as deemed to comply with the requirement.

Point 4.5.3: Maintenance description file

‘The maintenance description file includes the following:

— ...‘

— Parts list which shall contain the technical and functional descriptions of the spare parts (replaceable units). The list shall include all parts specified for changing based on condition, which may require a replacement following electrical or mechanical malfunction or which will foreseeable require a replacement after an accidental damage. Interoperability constituents shall be indicated and referenced to their corresponding declaration of conformity.

— ...

It is recommended to add to the parts list also the references from the spare part provider and manufacturer, in order to allow identification and procurement of the correct spare parts.

‘The maintenance description file includes the following:

— ...

— Maintenance plan i.e. the structured set of tasks to perform the maintenance including the activities, procedures and means. The description of this set of tasks includes:

(a) Disassembly/assembly instructions drawings necessary for correct assembly/disassembly of replaceable parts.

(b) Maintenance criteria.

(c) Checks and tests in particular of safety relevant parts; these include visual inspection and non-destructive tests (where appropriate e.g. to detect deficiencies that may impair safety).

(d) Tools and materials required to undertake the task.

(e) Consumables required to undertake the task.

(f) Personal protective safety provision and equipment.

— ...

It is recommended that the following results of the Task Force on Freight Wagon Maintenance are included in the maintenance description file as they are considered as good practice:
The harmonised maintenance program of inspection of axles, EVIC that is effective to reduce risks related to corrosion but insufficient to eliminate them completely. (See Annex III of [1]).

The identification of the data that needs to be collected in the European Wheelset Traceability Catalogue, EWT (See Annex IV of [1]).

The European Common Criteria for Maintenance for freight wagon axles, ECCM (See Annex V of [1]).

These three documents on railway maintenance, which were developed by the railway sector, should be taken into account by the applicant in the maintenance description file respectively for:

- The development and update of visual inspections on axles (EVIC).
- Defining the content of the part of the configuration file addressing wheelsets (EWT).
- Harmonising the maintenance plans (ECCM) when appropriate.

Regarding visual inspections there might be different understandings if they also belong to visual inspections carried out in the operational field outside of a maintenance workshop (see the final report ‘certification of maintenance workshops’ 01.08.2008, clause 5.1 first steps of maintenance). It is up to the RU and keeper/ECM to carry out the visual inspection, for example as agreed in the GCU.

Visual inspections may be carried out in maintenance workshops or in the operational field, for example by inspectors.

If the applicant can demonstrate through experience and risk assessment that it has more effective maintenance rules than the here-above recommended good practises, it should better introduce these in its maintenance description file.

Section 4.7: Health and Safety conditions

‘If the unit is fitted with a manual coupling system, a free space for shunters during coupling and uncoupling shall be provided.’

The free space for shunter as defined in chapter 3 of the ERA technical document 4 (ERA/TD/2012-04/INT version 1.0 of 04.06.2012) is deemed to be in conformity with this requirement of the TSI.

‘All protruding parts deemed a hazard to operational staff shall be clearly indicated and/or fitted with protective devices.’
Protective devices as described in clause 1.3 of UIC 535-2:2006 are deemed to be in conformity with this requirement of the TSI.

‘The unit shall be equipped with footsteps and handrails except in those cases it is not intended to be operated with staff on-board, e.g. for shunting.’

Footsteps and handrails in accordance with chapter 4 of the ERA technical document 4 (ERA/TD/2012-04/INT version 1.0 of 04.06.2012) in relation to the strength, size and free space for shunting staff are deemed to be in conformity with the requirement of the TSI.

Section 4.8: Parameters to be recorded in the technical file and European register of authorised types of vehicles

‘The technical file shall contain at least the following parameters:
— …
— Position of the axles along the unit and number of axles
— …’

The position of the axle along the unit and number of axles is the geometrical position of the axles in the unit according to EN 15528:2008.

2.5 Chapter 5: Interoperability constituents

An IC can be defined if its requirements in the TSI can be assessed independently from the subsystem on constituent level and if its area of use can be specified.

The area of use covers all conditions under which the constituents, as defined in section 7.2 of the TSI, are intended to use and their technical boundaries.

Point 5.3.1: Running gear

‘The running gear shall be designed for an application range, the area of use, as defined by the following parameters:
— …
— Rail inclination’

Rail inclination is recognised as a parameter defining the area of use of the running gear. The reason is that the running dynamic tests according to EN 14363 require the
tests to be performed on rail inclinations, 1:20 and 1:40, for ‘unrestricted international operation’.

The TSI offers in Annex B.1 the possibility of a work around using high equivalent conicity of the wheelset in order to prove that the rolling stock is suitable to be used for all rail inclinations.

It is recognised, however, that it is not always possible to meet the limit values with this work around and not always necessary, for operative reasons, to perform two individual tests on the different rail inclinations of each rolling stock as some rolling stock will be operated only on dedicated networks.

Therefore, by introducing the rail inclination as a parameter, it will be possible to perform tests on only one rail inclination and restricting the use of the running gear to those networks with the rail inclination the running gear was tested for.

Point 5.3.3: Wheel

‘A wheel shall be designed and assessed for an area of use defined by:
— nominal tread diameter,
— maximum vertical static force,
— maximum speed and service life, and
— maximum braking energy.’

The last bullet point indicates also the capability to be combined with a certain brake principle. For example when the brake force is not acting directly on the tread a very low braking energy or zero is stated for this parameter.

2.6 Chapter 6: Conformity assessment and EC verification

Explanations concerning the conformity assessment in section 6.1 and 6.2 of the WAG TSI are incorporated in section 2.4 of this Application Guide.

Section 6.3: Subsystem containing components corresponding to interoperability constituents not holding an EC declaration

‘A Notified Body is permitted to issue an EC certificate of verification of a subsystem, even if one or more of the components corresponding to interoperability constituents incorporated within the subsystem are not covered by a relevant EC declaration of conformity…’
When a constituent is considered as an IC, the use of a constituent holding an EC declaration is mandatory to get an EC declaration of verification for a RST subsystem unless the conditions set out in section 6.3 of the WAG TSI are applied.

Only components corresponding to an IC not holding an EC certificate (non-certified ICs as defined in section 7.2 of the TSI), which are produced before or within the transitional period referred to in section 6.3 resp. in Article 8 of the Commission regulation are allowed to be incorporated in the subsystem. Within this period the manufacturer must obtain an EC certificate otherwise he has to stop the production. Exemption is the running gear, where point 4.2.3.5.2 of the TSI always allows the applicant to choose for the assessment on subsystem level in accordance with point 6.2.2.3 or on interoperability constituent level in accordance with point 6.1.2.1.

The distinction between ‘component’ and ‘interoperability constituent’ had to be made because the ‘component’ means a tangible part of the subsystem and the ‘interoperability constituent’ is defined by a function.

2.7 Chapter 7: Implementation

Point 7.1: Authorisation for placing in service

‘This TSI is applicable to the subsystem ‘rolling stock — freight wagons’ within the scope set out in its sections 1.1, 1.2 and Chapter 2 which are placed in service after the date of application of this TSI.’

Article 20 of the Directive 2008/57/EC enables the application of this TSI to wagons already authorised in accordance with the WAG TSI 2006/861/EC, amended by CD 2009/107/EC, in order to e.g. receive the mutual recognition of the authorisation in accordance with point 7.1.2 or the allowance to mark the wagon ‘GE’ or ‘CW’ in accordance with Appendix C.5.

In any case it is possible to apply Article 22 of the Directive 2008/57/EC in order to obtain a new authorisation for placing in service including e.g. the mutual recognition of this authorisation in accordance with point 7.1.2 or the allowance to mark the wagon ‘GE’ or ‘CW’ in accordance with Appendix C.5.

Point 7.1.2: Mutual recognition of the first authorisation for placing in service

‘In accordance with article 23(1) of the Directive 2008/57/EC the following list lays out the conditions under which a unit, once authorised for placing in service in one Member State, shall not be subject to any additional authorisation for placing in service. These conditions shall be seen as complementary to the requirements in
A unit which conforms to the core TSI requirements and which complies with the MS specific notified national technical rules concerning applicable open points and specific cases can be authorised for placing in service in the MS where the granting NSA is established. If the applicant wants to authorise the unit also in other MSs, it has to ask the competent NSAs in the other MSs for an additional authorisation and the DeBo of each MS has to assess against the corresponding notified national technical rules again.

In order to avoid this time and cost extensive process Article 23(1) of the Directive 2008/57/EC offers the possibility for vehicles in complete conformity with the requirements in chapter 4 of the WAG TSI to define conditions in the TSI under which the unit shall not be subject to any additional authorisation for placing in service. These conditions for mutual recognition of the first authorisation are set out in point 7.1.2 of the WAG TSI.

The precondition is that the unit is conforming to all the requirements of chapter 4 of the TSI.

The first four bullet points (a) – (d) of point 7.1.2 set out conditions which close the open points of the WAG TSI.

The conditions in the bullet points (e) and (f) define the way to deal with the specific cases of Sweden and Portugal. All other specific cases in section 7.3 of the WAG TSI are alleviations solely applicable to domestic traffic, therefore not touching interoperability and subsequently not relevant for the mutual recognition.

Nevertheless some MSs/NSAs requested for additional conditions for the mutual recognition of the first authorisation with regard to concerns related to the application of the new approach. In (g) and (h) two conditions are to be found related to the compatibility with the network, and the points (i) to (k) refer to technical solutions coming from the former RIV world.

Section 7.2: Substitution, renewal and upgrading

‘The word ‘check’ in table 11 means that the entity in charge of maintenance (ECM) may under its responsibility substitute a component by another one utilising the same function and performance in accordance with the relevant TSI requirements…’
When a component is considered as an interoperability constituent (IC) in chapter 5 of the TSI, its use within the context of substitution, renewal and upgrading is set out in section 7.2 of the WAG TSI.

The clarification in the TSI about ICs in the context of substitution, renewal and upgrading was necessary because these rules are needed for the WP members to assess whether or not a constituent should be declared as an IC. They are strictly based on the ECM regulation.

Only components corresponding to an IC not holding an EC certificate (non-certified ICs as defined in section 7.2 of the TSI), which are produced before or within the transitional period referred to in section 6.3 and indicated in the Commission Decision, are allowed to be used for substitution.

The distinction between ‘component’ and ‘interoperability constituent’ had to be made because the ‘component’ means a tangible part of the subsystem and the ‘interoperability constituent’ is defined by functions.

The text following table 11 in the WAG TSI explains when the ECM has a role to play and what the checks consist of.

2.8 Appendices of the WAG TSI

Appendix C: Additional optional conditions

Appendix C consists of a set of detailed prescriptions of conditions and technical solutions optimised for the free exchange of wagons and its adhered operative regime and maintenance concept of the incumbent railway undertakings.

Next to the compliance with the core TSI requirements in chapter 4 and the fulfilment of the complete set of conditions in point 7.1.2 the wagon may also fulfil the conditions of Appendix C. The fulfilment of the Appendix C conditions is optional and not needed to achieve TSI conformity.

If an applicant choses for the application of Appendix C the fulfilment of all conditions become mandatory and shall be assessed by a NoBo. Appendix C.5 allows for a limited fulfilment where the conditions C.3 and/or C.6 and/or C.7b are excluded.

The responsibility for safe operation and in particular under which conditions a certain wagon can be operated remains always with the transporting RUs. These RUs may decide that particular wagons of the existing fleet could be operated like wagons marked TEN GE or TEN CW. In this case the RUs are free to indicate this in an appropriate way.
Article 3 of the enacting part of the WAG TSI allows for wagons authorised according to the previous technical specification for interoperability relating to the subsystem ‘rolling stock — freight wagons’ (Decision 2006/861/EC and its amendments) and fulfilling the conditions set out in point 7.6.4 thereof to obtain ‘GE’ marking without any additional assessment or new authorisation for placing in service. Although conditions specified in point 7.6.4 of the previous WAG TSI are not the same as those specified in point 7.1.2 and Appendix C of this WAG TSI, RUs may use the ‘GE’ marking for freight wagons authorised in accordance with both TSIs. The RUs should check the technical file of the wagon in order to verify that the ‘GE’ marking is suitable considering the intended conditions of use of the wagon. In any case, the interpretation of this marking for operational purposes remains under the responsibility of the RUs.

2.9 Some practical cases

Example of a unit to carry lorries (‘Rollende Landstrasse’)

In general several units to carry lorries are forming a block train. At each end of the block train the unit is fitted with movable head stocks which are equipped with footsteps and handrails (see figure 8).

Figure 8: Example of a unit to carry lorries (‘Rollende Landstrasse’)
2.10 Transition phases concerning friction elements for wheel tread brakes

WAG TSI provides transition phases for friction elements for wheel tread brakes.

Before the application of Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/924 fully approved composite brake blocks were listed in Appendix G (in the form of a link to the list of fully approved composite brake blocks for international transport published on the ERA website) and used in case the text of the WAG TSI made a reference to this appendix.

With the application of Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/924 a new interoperability constituent ‘friction element for wheel tread brakes’ has been created. This interoperability constituent comprises any friction element that acts on wheel’s tread including composite brake blocks as well as cast iron brake blocks.

Appendix G will be managed by ERA until the friction elements listed in it are not yet covered by EC declarations of conformity (cf. Article 10). Transition period in Article 8b is provided for friction elements that have already been listed in Appendix G before the application of Regulation 2015/924 in the sense that they are deemed TSI compliant until the end of their current approval period. This transition period should be used by the manufacturer to obtain EC certificate of conformity from a notified body and subsequently to issue EC declaration of conformity.
For obtaining EC certificate of conformity for a friction element for wheel tread brakes the manufacturer or his authorised representative established within the European Union should choose conformity assessment modules according to Table 9 of the WAG TSI. As technical documentation the manufacturer may provide notified body with the proof of compliance to the UIC requirements based on which the friction element has been included in Appendix G plus documentation regarding the manufacturing process. The notified body should make sure among other things that all the parameters specifying the area of use of the friction element according to point 5.3.4a of the WAG TSI are provided by the manufacturer before issuing EC certificate of conformity.

On top of the already explained transition phase for friction elements listed in Appendix G there are two other transition phases concerning components corresponding to the designs of friction elements for wheel tread brakes:

- components manufactured before the application of Regulation 2015/924 (e.g. according to notified national technical rules) and
- components corresponding to Appendix G designs of friction elements and manufactured before the expiry of the approval period.

For these components transition phase of 10 years is provided for their use in subsystem provided conditions of Article 8a and Article 8c respectively are fulfilled.

This means that since the date of application of Regulation 2015/924 no new friction elements are to be produced according to NNTRs with exception of friction elements intended for substitution in the framework of maintenance.

Since the date of application of Regulation 2015/924 no new friction elements will be newly listed in Appendix G. The reason for that is that since 1st July 2015 an EU procedure for friction elements will be used.

2.11 ERA technical document ERA/TD/2013-02/INT

The ERA technical document ERA/TD/2013-02/INT ‘Friction elements for wheel tread brakes for freight wagons’ published on the ERA website (http://www.era.europa.eu) is based on FprEN 16452:2014 ‘Railway applications — Braking — Brake blocks’. In the following text the link between these two documents is described.

Chapter 4 ‘Dynamic friction coefficient’ of the ERA TD

‘The dynamometer test program for friction elements for wheel tread brakes to determine the dynamic friction coefficient $\mu_{\text{dyn}}$ is set out in table 1.’
Dynamic friction coefficients and their tolerance bands form part of the parameters that characterise the area of use of the friction element for wheel tread brakes. The dynamometer test programme to determine these values is mandatory within the assessment procedure of friction elements.

Normative Annexes C, D and E and informative Annex J of FprEN 16452:2014 provide basis for the dynamometer test programme set out in table 1. The dynamometer test programme is generic to allow a wide range of designs of friction elements for wheel tread brakes to be tested.

**‘During the tests described in table 1 the following conditions shall be respected:’**

The conditions to be respected while performing dynamometer test programme to determine the dynamic friction coefficient are set out in the ERA TD. They represent a generalisation of the conditions described in Annex B of FprEN 16452:2014.

**‘In relation to the characteristics described in this chapter, in case the manufacturer chooses to apply some of the harmonised acceptance criteria for dynamic friction performance as specified in FprEN 16452:2014, the compliance to these harmonised acceptance criteria have to be stated in the technical documentation as part of the area of use of the friction element for wheel tread brakes.’**

There are no acceptance criteria for dynamic friction coefficients and their tolerance bands specified in the ERA TD. The reasoning behind is to allow for different values of the characterising friction elements’ parameters; the values need to be recorded in the technical documentation. Based on these values the applicant can choose the ones that suit the characteristics of his project. The intention is to widen the possible technical solutions pertaining to friction elements in order to allow for a technical development of the sector.

Nevertheless, a link is established with the harmonised acceptance criteria defined in FprEN 16452:2014 - Annex J.4. If a friction element fulfils some of these harmonised acceptance criteria and if the manufacturer intends to point out this conformity he can do so in the technical documentation of the friction element.

Chapter 5 ‘Static friction coefficient’ of the ERA TD

**‘The dynamometer test program to determine the static friction coefficient \( \mu_{\text{stat}} \) of friction elements for wheel tread brakes is set out in table 4.’**

Minimum static friction coefficient form part of the parameters that characterise the
area of use of the friction element for wheel tread brakes. The dynamometer test programme to determine this value is mandatory within the assessment procedure of friction elements.

Annex Q of FprEN 16452:2014 provides basis for the dynamometer test programme set out in table 4. The dynamometer test programme is generic to allow a wide range of designs of friction elements for wheel tread brakes to be tested.

\[\text{For each brake application \(n=1 \text{ to } 20\) the static friction coefficient shall be determined which is the value of the instantaneous friction coefficient at the time corresponding to the commencement of sliding (mean value calculated from the measurement records for the intersection between the linearised characteristic line of the rotation angle and the time axis) as described in figure 1.}\]

The definition of the static friction coefficient corresponds to Annex Q.4.1 of FprEN 16452:2014.

\[\text{During the tests described in table 4 the following conditions shall be respected:}\]

The conditions to be respected while performing dynamometer test programme to determine the static friction coefficient are set out in the ERA TD. They represent a generalisation of the conditions described in Annex Q.4.3 of FprEN 16452:2014.

\[\text{For each force the average value of the 5 measurements shall be determined. The lowest average value is the characterising static friction coefficient.}\]

There are no acceptance criteria for static friction coefficient specified in the ERA TD. The reasoning behind is to allow for different values of the characterising friction elements’ parameters; the values need to be recorded in the technical documentation. Based on these values the applicant can choose the ones that suit the characteristics of his project. The intention is to widen the possible technical solutions pertaining to friction elements in order to allow for a technical development of the sector.

Chapter 6 ‘Mechanical characteristics’ of the ERA TD

\[\text{The mechanical characteristics of the assembly between back plate and friction element for wheel tread brakes shall be tested with the test procedures set out in sections 6.1 and 6.2.}\]

Mechanical characteristics in respect with the maximum permitted brake forces applied on the friction element form part of the parameters that characterise the area
of use of the friction element for wheel tread brakes. The tests to determine these values are mandatory within the assessment procedure of friction elements.

Annex T of FprEN 16452:2014 provides basis for the shear strength and flexural strength tests described in the ERA TD. These tests use the value of the maximum permissible braking force applied at the friction element to determine its conformity in respect with mechanical characteristics resistance.

Chapter 7 ‘Suitability for train detection by systems based on track circuits’ of the ERA TD

This chapter specifies a rig test programme to determine the suitability of friction elements for wheel tread brakes for train detection by systems based on track circuits. Annex O of FprEN 16452:2014 provides basis for this test. The demonstration of this suitability within the assessment procedure is not mandatory. Nevertheless, the suitability/non-suitability of the friction element has to be recorded in the technical documentation.

‘The following rig test to demonstrate the suitability for train detection by systems based on track circuits is only applicable if the friction element is intended to be used in subsystems which fall under the following scope:

- Nominal wheel diameters of 680 mm to 920 mm
- Friction element configurations 1Bg, 1Bgu, 2Bg, 2Bgu
- Mass per wheel ≥ 1.8 t’

The restriction of the scope of the rig test is caused by a lack of experience with testing friction elements of other parameters than those specified. If a manufacturer would like to test such friction element he has to use the procedure for innovative solutions (Article 10a and point 6.1.2.5 of the WAG TSI). Nevertheless, the manufacturer may propose the same rig test as specified in chapter 7 of the ERA TD if he considers that he has already gained sufficient experience to be sure that the test may be used even outside the prescribed scope.

‘Cast iron brake blocks are deemed to be suitable for train detection by systems based on track circuits.’

Cast iron brake blocks need not be tested and their suitability for train detection by systems based on track circuits is deemed to be fulfilled.
Chapter 8 ‘Suitability for severe environmental conditions’ of the ERA TD

‘The suitability of the friction element acting on wheel tread brakes for severe environmental conditions shall be tested in accordance with the test procedures set out in sections 8.1 or 8.2.’

If the friction element is supposed to be suitable for severe environmental conditions, the demonstration of this suitability is carried out according to chapter 8 of the ERA TD. This chapter provides two possibilities: either a test run (based on Annex M of FprEN 16452:2014) or a dynamometer test (base on Annex L of FprEN 16452:2014).

The demonstration of this suitability within the assessment procedure is not mandatory. Nevertheless, the suitability/non-suitability of the friction element has to be recorded in the technical documentation.

‘Cast iron brake blocks are deemed to be suitable for severe environmental conditions.’

Cast iron brake blocks need not be tested and their suitability for severe environmental conditions is deemed to be fulfilled.

Section 8.1 ‘Test run’

‘The average braking distances of the ‘winter tests’ at each speed and the average braking distances of the ‘reference tests’ shall be determined.’

There are no acceptance criteria specified for the test run. The reasoning behind is to allow for different values of the characterising friction elements’ parameters; the values need to be recorded in the technical documentation. Based on these values the applicant can choose the ones that suit the characteristics of his project. The intention is to widen the possible technical solutions pertaining to friction elements in order to allow for a technical development of the sector.

Harmonised acceptance criterion is defined in FprEN 16452:2014 - Annex M.4. If a friction element fulfils some of these harmonised acceptance criteria the manufacturer can optionally point out this conformity in the technical documentation relating to the friction element.

Section 8.2 ‘Dynamometer test’
The dynamometer test program to demonstrate the extreme winter braking properties is set out in table 6 and table 7 and is only applicable if the friction element…’

The restriction of the scope of the dynamometer test is caused by a lack of experience with testing friction elements of other parameters than those specified. If a manufacturer would like to test such friction element he has to use the procedure for innovative solutions (Article 10a and point 6.1.2.5 of the WAG TSI). Nevertheless, the manufacturer may propose the same dynamometer test as specified in section 8.2 of the ERA TD if he considers that he has already gained sufficient experience to be sure that the test may be used even outside the prescribed scope.

‘During the tests described in tables 6 and 7 the following conditions shall be respected:’

The conditions to be respected while performing dynamometer test programme to determine the suitability of a friction element for severe environmental conditions are set out in the ERA TD. They represent a generalisation of the conditions described in Annex L.3 of FprEN 16452:2014.

‘The test program shall be carried out three times and the establishment of the suitability shall be done for a maximum test speed of 100 km/h and 120 km/h as follows:’

There are no acceptance criteria specified for the dynamometer test. The reasoning behind is to allow for different values of the characterising friction elements’ parameters; the values need to be recorded in the technical documentation. The applicant can choose the ones that suit the characteristics of his project. The intention is to widen the possible technical solutions pertaining to friction elements in order to allow for a technical development of the sector.

Harmonised acceptance criteria are defined in FprEN 16452:2014 - Annex L.4. If a friction element fulfils some of these harmonised acceptance criteria the manufacturer can optionally point out this conformity in the technical documentation relating to the friction element.

Chapter 9 ‘Thermo mechanical characteristics’ of the ERA TD

‘At the interoperability constituent level (friction element for wheel tread brakes), in case the manufacturer chooses to perform the test to simulate ‘locked brake’ as
specified in FprEN 16452:2014, the result of this test has to be recorded in the technical documentation as part of the area of use of the friction element for wheel tread brakes.’

Locked brake test is described in Annex N of FprEN 16452:2014. The performance of this test by the manufacturer is not mandatory. Please read the guidance in this Application Guide provided for points 4.2.3.6.3 and 4.2.4.3.3 of the WAG TSI.
## APPENDIX 1: VOLUNTARY STANDARDS

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