Press release



EU Agency for Railways, 26 August 2019

CCRCC 2019 - ERTMS conference — THE ENGINE FOR THE DIGITAL FUTURE

VALENCIENNES, France, 26 August 2019

The EU Agency for Railways is organising the ERTMS conference - #CCRCC2019 "The Engine for the Digital Future" from 15 to 17 October 2019 in Valenciennes.

This benchmark event will gather up to 500 experts from the Railway sector, including Railway Undertakings, Infrastructure Managers, Industry Suppliers and decision makers from across the world.

While the structure of large conferences normally does not allow for detailed discussions on specific topics, the Agency has found a way to integrate this necessary component by introducing a set of workshops to be held in the afternoon of 15th October. The workshops aim to provide a platform for learning, discussion and contribution to the compelling and important issues in the field of ERTMS.

Six workshops covering different subjects will be held simultaneously during the first session. To allow attendees the possibility to participate in the discussions of two different subjects, the workshops will be repeated in a second session (except workshop 6, which will not cover the same subjects in both sessions).

- 1. ERTMS deployment and related challenges,
- 2. Vehicle upgrade and vehicle authorisation topics,
- 3. ERTMS regulatory and funding framework,
- 4. Railway radio communication system,
- 5. Future transport system Rail and CCS evolution,
- 6A Human and Organisational Factors, and
- 6B ERTMS and CCS performance optimisation.

The outcome of the workshops will provide additional information for the conference sessions that will be held during the following two days.

The conference will continue with a programme which will showcase the experiences of the public sector, railways and supply industry and share their commitment for further achievements in deploying efficiently ERTMS solutions.

In **session I** high-level experts from Denmark, Italy, Belgium and Spain will share their experience with the progress made on the ERTMS EDP (European Deployment Plan).

Session II will deal with the technical and financing challenges related to the upgrade of the ETCS part of vehicles, based on the study of a CEF funded project which encompasses different types of

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locomotives with ETCS equipment from different manufacturers owned by different railway undertakings.

The new responsibilities of the EU Agency for Railways defined in the new European regulatory framework will be the key topics in **Session III**. The Fourth Railway Package has changed the role for the Agency, who is the ERTMS system authority that manages the technical specifications for the European Train Control System (ETCS) and the Global System of Mobile Communications – Railway (GSM-R). The new task authorising vehicles, including the ERTMS on-board subsystem, marks an important milestone too. This goes in parallel to the process of ERTMS trackside approval. These processes are expected to enhance interoperability and compatibility between on-board and trackside subsystems.

In **session IV** the conference will focus on the challenges that the Future Rail Mobile Communications System (FRMCS) may present. This new telecommunication system will constitute the successor to GSM-R. The session will provide information on the FRMCS planning, its future architecture and the challenges of the migration from GSM-R to FRMCS.

Session V will draw the path to the future transport system with the focus on rail and especially on the CCS (Control Command and Signalling) evolution. It will cover the European view, expressed by the European Commission, ERA, S2R and GSA as well as the sector view (infrastructure managers, railway undertakings and railway system manufacturers).

European Union and national representatives together with railway stakeholders will voice their opinion on the role that ERTMS, digitalisation and big-data should have in modernising the railway sector and the challenges that these new features represent for the railway industry innovation.

Online registration is mandatory for all conference participants. Should you wish to attend the conference and contribute to the debate, please follow the <u>link</u>.

Click here to download the agenda.

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About the EU Agency for Railways

The European Union Agency for Railways was established in Valenciennes (offices) and Lille (meeting facilities) in 2004. Its 170 employees represent more than 22 European Member States and speak multiple languages. ERA has been providing EU Member States and the European Commission with technical assistance in the development and implementation of the Single European Railway Area. This comprises enhancing technical interoperability and harmonising rules, promoting simplified access for customers, developing a common approach to safety and safety culture, advising on telematics applications and ERTMS (European Traffic Management System), monitoring National Safety Authorities and Notified Bodies and facilitating the exchange of information between the railway actors in Europe. Since 16th June 2019 the EU Agency for Railways is mandated to issue single safety certificates and vehicle (type) authorisations valid in multiple European countries and to ensure an interoperable European Rail Traffic Management System. The purpose of these activities is expressed by the slogan "Making the railway system work better for society."

Media Contact:

Communication team

120 Rue Marc Lefrancq | BP 20392 | FR-59307 Valenciennes CEDEX

Tel. +33 (0)327 09 65 00

era.europa.eu

