

## ERA ISSUES ITS FIRST SINGLE SAFETY CERTIFICATE TODAY

VALENCIENNES, France, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019

### The European Union Agency for Railways (ERA) delivers its first decision on the issuing of a Single Safety Certificate

Josef Doppelbauer, Executive Director of ERA, signed today the first decision by the European Union Agency for Railways on the issuing of a Single Safety Certificate. From June 16<sup>th</sup> 2019 ERA is mandated to issue single safety certificates which are valid in multiple European Member States.

‘Thanks to the professionalism of all parties involved and fruitful cooperation with the applicant, the Agency has managed this project under the very tight timeframe given (before expiration of the applicant’s part B national safety certificate) and ahead of the deadlines set by the legislation’, says Thierry Breyne, Head of Unit of ERA’s Approvals and Delivery Unit: ‘I congratulate and thank the team for their excellent work.’

The Agency is currently assessing five more applications for Single Safety Certificates for which decisions are to be expected in the coming months and it has received two pre-engagement requests. More applications are expected leading up to June 2020, when the remaining Member States will introduce the new regime.

‘The key challenge for the Agency is to make the new procedures work as seamlessly and effectively as possible, particularly throughout the transition period until 16<sup>th</sup> June 2020. During this period there are different railway safety regimes in place, says Josef Doppelbauer, ‘looking at our experiences since 16<sup>th</sup> June I am confident we will manage.’

#### About the EU Agency for Railways

The European Union Agency for Railways was established in Valenciennes (offices) and Lille (meeting facilities) in 2004. Its approx. 200 staff 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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."

[Download photo: Josef Doppelbauer signing the first decision on a Single Safety Certificate by ERA on 16<sup>th</sup> Sept.2019](#)

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