



Organisation intergouvernementale pour les transports internationaux ferroviaires  
Zwischenstaatliche Organisation für den internationalen Eisenbahnverkehr  
Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail

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**Commission d'experts techniques**  
**Fachausschuss für technische Fragen**  
**Committee of Technical Experts**

**TECH-23008-CTE15-7**

**17.04.2023**

Original: EN

## **15<sup>TH</sup> SESSION**

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Progress report on drafting and updating the UTP application guides

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Article 21 § 4 of the ATMF UR gives the Committee of Technical Experts (CTE) the competence to recommend methods and practices relating to the technical admission of railway material used in international traffic. The UTP application guides are examples of such recommended methods and practices.

The UTP application guides published on [OTIF's website](#) provide explanations concerning the UTPs and aim to facilitate a shared understanding of how to apply the UTP requirements. The UTP application guides should be read and used in conjunction with the relevant UTPs. For some of the UTPs, application guides already exist, while for other UTPs, these are still pending. Some of the existing UTP application guides need to be updated in order to reflect recent modifications to the UTPs or to describe the experience gained in applying them.

At its 14<sup>th</sup> session (Bern, 14-15 June 2022), the CTE requested proposals to update the application guides to UTPs, starting with guides relating to UTPs relevant to freight wagons. Since then, two application guides have been updated and reviewed by WG TECH, concerning:

- The UTP WAG (concerning freight wagons)
- The UTP NOI (concerning rolling stock noise).

This document proposes that the Committee of Technical Experts approves these two updated application guides.

## 2. SOURCE DOCUMENTS

The OTIF UTPs are based on European Union TSIs. Similarly, the UTP application guides are based on the TSI application guides issued by the European Union Agency for Railways (ERA). ERA publishes the TSI application guides on its website [https://www.era.europa.eu/activities/technical-specifications-interoperability\\_en](https://www.era.europa.eu/activities/technical-specifications-interoperability_en).

All the latest TSI application guides are published in English only and some older versions of application guides are also published in other languages. When preparing the documents for the 15<sup>th</sup> session of the CTE, the latest versions of the application guides for the TSI Noise and the TSI WAG were available in English only. Once the French and German versions of the TSI application guides become available, the OTIF Secretariat could also prepare the French and German versions of the UTP application guides.

## 3. PREPARATION OF THE UTP APPLICATION GUIDES

In the UTPs, differences of substance compared to the TSIs are indicated by using a two-column layout. The substance of UTP texts printed in full width is identical in the TSIs and UTPs. Most of the guidance for the application of the TSIs is also relevant for application of the UTPs. The UTP application guides therefore takes over all the text from the TSI application guides and only include additional explanations when necessary. In the UTP application guides, OTIF text that is additional to that of the TSI application guides is printed in blue rectangles. The texts in these blue rectangles provide information relating to the differences between the TSI and the UTP. All text that is not printed in blue rectangles is copied from the TSI application guides, without changes.

Where the original texts taken over from the TSI application guides refer to TSIs, this should be read as a reference to the relevant UTP. Where the TSI application guides use the term “Member State”, this should be understood as “Contracting State” in the context of OTIF texts.

The draft revised UTP application guides were prepared as follows:

- ERA provided the OTIF Secretariat with an MS Word file of the latest version of the relevant TSI application guide. This file was taken as the basis, without any change to the text of the TSI application guide;
- The blue rectangles from the previous version of the UTP application guide were copied into the file, after which these texts were amended or deleted where necessary. Some new blue rectangles containing texts were added;

At its 47<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> sessions, WG TECH reviewed the two draft application guides for the UTP WAG and UTP NOI. After the review, there were no further comments and WG TECH agreed to submit the guides to the CTE for approval.

#### **A) APPLICATION GUIDE FOR UTP WAG (TECH-23009-CTE15-7.1)**

The proposal for a revised application guide for UTP WAG was updated on the basis of the ERA guide for the application of the TSI for freight wagons (reference GUI/WAG TSI/2021), version 3.0 dated 15 February 2021.

At the time this application guide was prepared, the source document (the TSI application guide) existed in English only. So far, therefore, the UTP application guide has only been prepared in English.

The information is relevant for application of the OTIF UTP concerning freight wagons, which entered into force on 1 January 2022.

#### **B) APPLICATION GUIDE FOR UTP NOI (TECH-23010-CTE15-7.2)**

The proposal for a revised application guide for UTP NOI was updated on the basis of the ERA guide for the application of the NOI TSI (reference ERA/GUI/NOI TSI/2019), version 1.0 dated 16 May 2019.

At the time of preparing this application guide, the source document (the TSI application guide) existed in English only. So far, therefore, the UTP application guide has only been prepared in English.

The information is relevant for application of the OTIF UTP relating to rolling stock noise, which entered into force on 1 April 2021.

### **PROPOSALS FOR DECISION**

- The Committee of Technical Experts takes note of the progress report, reference TECH-23008-CTE15-7 of 17 April 2023, concerning the drafting and updating of UTP application guides.
- The Committee of Technical Experts approves the English version of the Guide for the application of the Uniform Technical Prescription concerning the subsystem: “Rolling stock – Freight Wagons” (UTP WAG), reference TECH-23009-CTE15-7.1 of 17 April 2023[, as modified at the session], and requests the Secretary General to publish it on OTIF’s website.
- The Committee of Technical Experts approves the English version of the Guide for the application of the Uniform Technical Prescription concerning the subsystem: “Rolling stock – NOISE” (UTP NOI), reference TECH-23010-CTE15-7.2 of 17 April 2023[, as modified at the session], and requests the Secretary General to publish it on OTIF’s website.
- The Committee of Technical Experts requests the Secretary General to prepare and publish French and German versions of the approved guides if the source documents (TSI application guides) become available in these languages.