



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

Groupe de travail TECH
Arbeitsgruppe TECH
Working Group TECH

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**TO THE MEMBER STATES AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF OTIF AND TO
REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS WHICH HAVE ACCEDED TO COTIF**

Invitation to the 50th session of the working group Technology (WG TECH)

Bern/Gümligen (hybrid meeting), 7-8 September 2023

The OTIF Secretariat is convening the 50th session of the working group Technology (WG TECH) on

7 September: 13:00 – 17:00

8 September: 9:00 – 13:00

(all times in CEST)

The session will be held as a hybrid meeting.

Participants will be able to attend the meeting in person, or attend remotely using MS Teams. For those who attend in person, please note that due to renovation of the OTIF building **the session will be held at OTIF's temporary offices** at

OTIF temporary offices

**Worbstrasse 201,
3073 Gümligen,
Switzerland**

Gümligen is near Bern and is within Bern's public transport network. Annex 3 to this invitation explains how to find the venue.

Agenda

The provisional agenda is in Annex 1 to this invitation. The agenda items for this working group concern the preparation of documents for decision by the Committee of Technical Experts (CTE).

Working documents

The documents for the session will be placed on OTIF's website (www.otif.org) four weeks before the meeting under:

[Activities](#) > [Technical Interoperability](#) > [Working Group Tech](#) > [Working Documents](#) > [2023](#)

Observers

In accordance with the decision taken by the CTE at its 15th session (Bern, 13-14 June 2023), the intergovernmental organisations and stakeholders invited are those listed in Annex 2 to this invitation.

Furthermore, on the basis of Article 16 § 5 of COTIF, the Secretary General invites the states listed in Annex 2 that are not members of the Organisation to attend in an advisory capacity (observers). This invitation is subject to the agreement of a majority of the Member States. Member States should send the Secretariat any objections they may have concerning the invited states by no later than **12 August 2023**. The Secretary General will assume tacit agreement of the Member States that do not object.

Language

In accordance with Article 23 § 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the CTE of 13 June 2023 and the decision taken by the CTE at its 3rd session (Bern, 11-12 February 2009), sessions of the WG TECH are held in English only.

Registration

Delegates are asked to register using the digital registration form on the OTIF website under:

[Events](#) > [Registration form](#)

The completed form should be submitted by **25 August 2023** at the latest. For logistical reasons, it is important that delegates indicate whether they will attend the meeting in person or remotely.

Further information

Registered delegates will be provided with details on how to participate in the meeting remotely approximately one week before the meeting.

As we will reach the significant milestone of the 50th session of WG TECH, the OTIF Secretariat would like to invite delegates who attend in-person to join us for a small informal gathering immediately following the first day of the meeting.

Yours faithfully



(Wolfgang Küpper)
Secretary General

Annexes:

- 1: Provisional agenda
- 2: List of invited stakeholders and observers
- 3: Location of the venue and how to reach it

Annex 1**Provisional agenda**

Opening of the session

Election of chair

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Approval of the minutes of the 49th session of WG TECH
3. Information from the OTIF Secretariat
4. For discussion:
 - 4.1. Revision of UTP WAG (including a presentation of the transitional provisions in 7.2.3 and Appendix A)
 - 4.2. Revision of UTP Noise
 - 4.3. Revision of UTP TCRC
 - 4.4. Explanatory document to the UTP TCRC
 - 4.5. Draft Annex D to the EST UR concerning supervision (including a presentation by CH of experience with coordination in the scope of supervision)
 - 4.6. Update to the application guide for the UTP LOC&PAS
5. Developments in European Union regulations that are of relevance to COTIF (presented by the European Commission and the European Union Agency for Railways)
 - 5.1. Demonstration of the European Vehicle Register (EVR)
 - 5.2. Status update concerning the development of the EVR
 - 5.3. Status update on the revision of TSIs
6. Cross reference table of EU and OTIF terminology
7. EU – OTIF equivalence table
8. Any other business
9. Next sessions

Annex 2**List of invited observers**

The following intergovernmental organisations are invited to participate in the working group session in an advisory capacity (observer):

- Organisation for Co-operation between Railways (OSJD)
- The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
- Transport Community Permanent Secretariat (TCPS)

The following stakeholders are invited to participate in the working group session in an advisory capacity (observers):

- Association of notified bodies (NB-Rail Association)
- Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER)
- European Committee for Standardization (CEN)
- European Rail Freight Association (ERFA)
- International Association of Public Transport (UITP)
- International Rail Transport Committee (CIT)
- International Union of combined Road-Rail transport companies (UIRR)
- International Union of Railways (UIC)
- International Union of Wagon Keepers (UIP)
- Union of European Railway Industries (UNIFE)

Subject to the conditions of Article 16 § 5 of COTIF, the following states that are not members of the Organisation are invited to participate in the working group session in an advisory capacity (observer):

- People's Republic of China
- Republic of Moldova

Annex 3

How to get from Bern railway station to the meeting venue

The meeting will take place on the 4th floor of the building where the OTIF Secretariat's temporary offices are located. The building is walking distance from train/tram/bus station Gümligen (Gümligen Bahnhof).

**OTIF temporary office,
Worbstrasse 201,
3073 Gümligen,
Switzerland**

From Bern station (Bern Bahnhof) you can reach Gümligen directly by taking:

- Tram line 6 in the direction of Worb. This tram takes 17 minutes to reach Gümligen (9th stop). It also stops in the centre of Bern (Bern Bärenplatz, Bern Zytglogge, etc.), or
- Train S1 in the direction of Thun. This train takes 10 minutes to reach Gümligen (3rd stop).
- Train S2 in the direction of Langnau i.E. (Langnau im Emmental). This trains takes 10 minutes to reach Gümligen (3rd stop).

A route map of Bern's public transport network is available here:

<https://www.bernmobil.ch/de/fahrplan-netz/zonenplaene/zonenplan-bern>

At Gümligen station, you have to walk through the pedestrian tunnel underneath the tracks and take the first road on the right. You will find the meeting location in the first big office building on the right (see picture below).

