



Hop On! On board a special train

Today, 27 September 2021, OTIF's Secretary General, Wolfgang Küpper is on board the “[Connecting Europe Express](#)” train, which arrives in Bern, the capital of Switzerland at 5.50 p.m. Bern was a pioneer city of international rail transport. Mr Küpper will then take part in the celebrations organised by the Federal Office of Transport (FOT) of the Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (DETEC) and the Swiss Federal Railways (SBB).

Also on board the train are Federal Councillor Simonetta Sommaruga and the CEO of Swiss Federal Railways, Vincent Ducrot.

The “Connecting Europe Express” left Lisbon on 2 September 2021 and arrived in Paris on 7 October 2021, its final destination. It is now stopping in Switzerland, the crossroads of intense international rail traffic in Europe.

The unique “Connecting Europe Express” project was conceived as part of the European Year of Rail by the European Commission and its partners. This special train will travel 20,000 kilometres, crossing 26 countries in 36 days, crossing 33 borders and bringing together 40 partners in the sector. The train highlights the unifying power of rail by travelling on the railways that connect people and countries across Europe.

The Secretary General of OTIF welcomes this initiative, which illustrates the challenges the rail sector has to face in order to become the mode of choice for passengers and companies alike. The Secretary General warmly thanks SBB and the FOT for their invitation.

