

Technical interoperability, a goal shared with the EU – the ERTMS 2022 Conference

Yesterday, 27 April 2022, OTIF's Secretary General, Mr Küpper, took part in the round table discussion on the second day of the ERTMS 2022 Conference organised by the European Union Agency for Railways.

The European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS) Conference was held from 26 to 28 April 2022 in Valenciennes, France. The second day of the conference highlighted the main advances in the harmonisation of rail traffic management in the European Union over the last decade and examined the future of ERTMS in terms of innovation and digitalisation.

Technical interoperability is an important objective that OTIF is pursuing in cooperation with the European Union.

In 2011, the European Union acceded to COTIF and since then, OTIF, through its Secretariat, has been working closely with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Transport and Mobility via the EU Agency for Railways.

For example, OTIF's Uniform Technical Prescriptions (UTP), which are the basis for the admission of railway vehicles to international traffic, are compatible with the European Union's Technical Specifications for Interoperability (TSI).

Mr Küpper welcomed the progress made on the harmonisation of rail traffic management. In order to achieve greater technical interoperability, rapid and widespread implementation of the stabilised European rail traffic management system was desirable. Lastly, Mr Küpper emphasised the importance of close cooperation with the EU Agency for Railways to ensure that technical rules are passed on beyond the European Union.

