Ninth session of the Committee of Technical Experts

The Committee of Technical Experts of the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) will meet in Berne on 7 and 8 June 2016.

This is an increasingly important OTIF body, which enables the Member States to work on technical interoperability and harmonisation in the field of railways. The CTE also covers the development of uniform procedures for the technical approval of material intended to be used in international traffic (Appendix F, APTU Uniform Rules and Appendix G, ATMF Uniform Rules of the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail – COTIF).

This Committee validates, adopts and develops the technical rules of COTIF relating to railway material used in international traffic. More specifically, it adopts the uniform technical prescriptions (UTP) for the construction and operation of railway material used in international traffic.

In line with the provisional agenda, the Committee of Technical Experts will discuss the adoption of amendments to the UTP wagons and the adoption of amendments to the UTP GEN-G, common safety method for risk evaluation and assessment. These amendments will ensure that the uniform technical prescriptions remain fully equivalent with European Union legislation.

The Committee of Technical Experts will then discuss possible developments concerning telematics applications for freight (TAF).

Lastly, the participating Member States will discuss the possibility in COTIF of moving away from the concept of the exchange of vehicles towards the concept of operating complete trains in international traffic.

The Committee will meet at the Universal Postal Union on 7 and 8 June 2016. It will start at 10.00 on 7 June and end at 13.00 on 8 June. The working languages will be English, French and German.

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