



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

TECH-24027-WGT 52

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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 52nd session of the working group Technology (WG Tech)

Bern/Ittigen (hybrid meeting), 13 June 2024

The OTIF Secretariat is convening the 52nd session of the working group Technology (WG Tech) on

13 June 2024: 9:00 – 16:00

(all times in CEST)

The session will be held as a hybrid meeting.

The meeting will be hosted by the Swiss Federal Office of Transport:

Bundesamt für Verkehr (BAV)

Mühlestrasse 6

CH-3063 Ittigen (near Bern)

Switzerland

Meeting room: 110 Ground floor

Participants will be able to attend the meeting in person, or attend remotely using MS Teams.

Please note that the 16th session of the Committee of Technical Experts (CTE) will take place on 11-12 June 2024 in Bern. Please see the [invitation letter](#) for all relevant information.

Agenda

The provisional agenda is in Annex 1 to this invitation letter.

Working documents

The documents for the session will be placed on OTIF's website (www.otif.org) four weeks before the meeting, i.e. 15 May 2024, under:

[Activities](#) > [Technical Interoperability](#) > [Working Group Tech](#) > [Working Documents](#) > [2024](#)

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 2 May 2024. The Secretary General will assume tacit agreement of the Member States that do not object.

Rules of Procedure

The rules of procedure of the WG Tech are the same as those concerning the Committee of Technical Experts. They are available on OTIF's website ([link](#)).

Language

Sessions of the WG Tech are held in English only. There will be no interpretation. This is 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).

Registration

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

[Events > Registration form](#)

The completed form should be submitted by **30 May 2024** at the latest. For logistical reasons, it is important that delegates indicate whether they will attend the meeting in person or remotely.

Entering Switzerland

Please consult the website of the Swiss Government with regard to the [conditions for entering Switzerland](#).

Delegates who require help to obtain a visa are requested to contact the Secretariat before 1 May 2024.

Before applying for a Swiss entry visa, delegates should be designated by their Government to attend the OTIF meeting and inform the OTIF Secretariat accordingly. They must ensure they have all necessary supporting documents before visiting the nearest Swiss Embassy or Consulate to obtain the visa.

Travel to Bern

Delegates are advised to travel to Bern by train. There are frequent and convenient connections directly from the international airports of Geneva and Zurich. Tickets can be purchased online (<https://www.sbb.ch/en/>) or via the SBB App on mobile devices at any time before departure, or at the train station.

Reaching the meeting venue

The meeting venue is most easily reached by public transport, using urban train S7 from the Bern railway station. The stop is Papiermühle, which is the second stop after Bern. The connection is covered by the public transport ticket (zones 100,101) that is usually issued to guests who stay in a hotel in Bern.

See Annex 3 for further details.

Remote participation

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

Yours faithfully



(Wolfgang Küpper)
Secretary General

Annexes:

- 1: Provisional agenda
- 2: List of invited stakeholders and observers
- 3: Reaching the venue

Annex 1**Provisional agenda**

Opening of the session

Election of chair

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Information from the OTIF Secretariat, including results of the 16th session of the CTE
3. For discussion:
 - 3.1. Draft proposal for revision of the UTP LOC&PAS
 - 3.2. Draft proposal for revision of the UTP PRM
 - 3.3. Draft proposal for revision of the UTP Marking
 - 3.4. Draft proposal for revision of the UTP INF
 - 3.5. Draft update to guide for the application of the UTP WAG
 - 3.6. Draft update to guide for the application of the UTP Noise
 - 3.7. [Depending on the outcome of the CTE: Review of the draft handbook for the implementation and application of the APTU and ATMF Uniform Rules]
4. Sharing experiences with the application of the ECM rules and with significant changes in the context of the CSM on risk assessment. Presentation by Türkiye.
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. Status update concerning the European Vehicle Register
 - 5.2. Status update concerning the TSI for Telematics
 - 5.3. Any other relevant developments
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

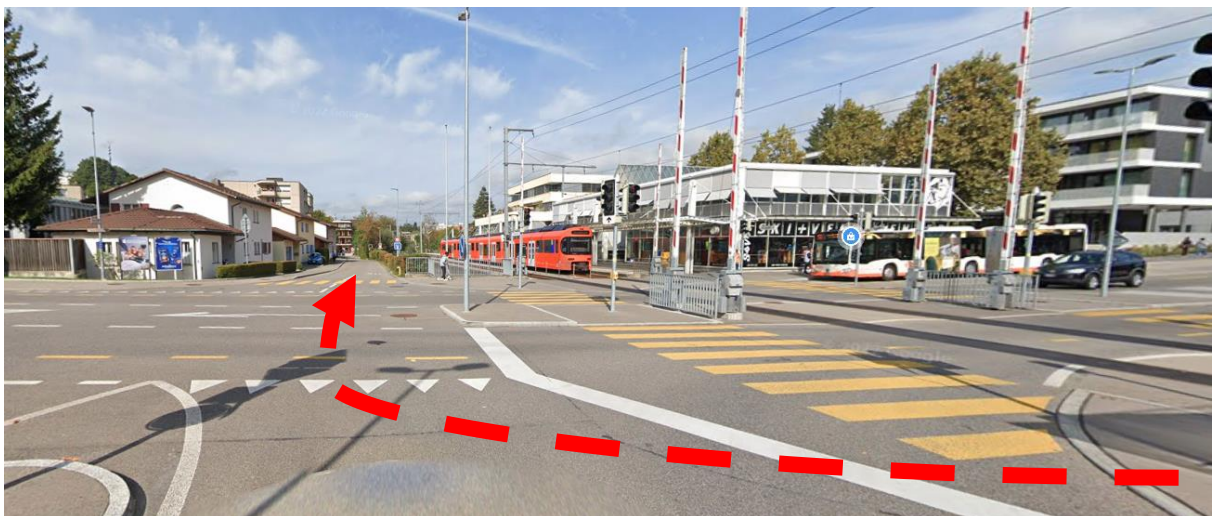
Reaching the venue

<https://www.bav.admin.ch/bav/en/home/the-fot/address-and-location.html>



Train S7 departs 8 times per hour from Bern main station platform 23 or 24 (you can take any train S7 in the direction of Worblaufen or Bolligen). It takes 7 minutes to reach Papiermühle station.

The meeting venue is within a 5-minute walking distance of Papiermühle station. Upon disembarking the train at Papiermühle station, walk in the opposite direction of the train's travel without crossing the tracks (refer to the red arrow in the picture below). The building of the Federal Office of Transport (Bundesamt für Verkehr - BAV) is the first building on the right, at the end of the street.



Guidance to the meeting room will be provided at the reception desk.