Press Release
Brussels, 30 March 2016

PROJECTS WORTH 222M€ PROPOSED UNDER FIRST SHIFT2RAIL CALL FOR RESEARCH

The Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking (S2R JU) has expressed broad satisfaction with the response to its first calls for proposals[1] . The S2R JU has received 43 proposals with a total funding request of close to €80 million for its 15 open call topics and total available budget of €26.1 million. The 27 S2R JU members have presented project proposals for the 13 call topics reserved to them. In addition to the €63 million they are requesting for these projects, the S2R JU members are planning to contribute €80 million themselves to the implementation of these projects.

A total of 454 participants have applied to the open calls and the calls for members, of which 25% are SMEs.

Keir Fitch, Interim Executive Director of the S2R JU said: "*The application rate to the open calls should ensure that we have healthy competition in most of the topics. We are confident that this will result in the S2R JU funding excellent projects in all its Innovation Programmes. We are particularly enthusiastic to see the high participation rate of SMEs.*"

Andy Doherty, Industry Spokesperson for the S2R JU said: "*We are confident that the projects funded through this first round of calls will build upon and complement the work already*

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[1] http://www.shift2rail.org/call-for-proposals-published/

launched under the Shift2Rail lighthouse projects, providing the necessary impulse to Shift2Rail activities so that we can meet our ambitious objectives of enabling a true step change to a yet higher performing customer driven railway for Europe".

Next steps

The evaluation of the proposals will start in April 2016 and will be completed by June 2016. Applicants should be informed on the outcome of the evaluations by mid July 2016.

On Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking (S2R JU)

Shift2Rail is the first European rail Public Private Partnership tasked with developing strategically-focused research and innovation (R&I) and market-driven solutions, and with integrating these to create the railway system of the future. With a total value of 920M€ for the period 2014-2020, Shift2Rail is promoting the competitiveness of the European rail industry and ensuring the attractiveness of rail as a safe and sustainable low carbon transport mode. We need it to meet the changing transport/mobility needs of EU citizens and the economy.

The Shift2Rail initiative successfully started a year ago with the kick-off of four "lighthouse" projects with 52M€ of research paving the way for the main programme.

In addition, since the beginning of 2016, the S2R JU members have been able to implement additional activities in support of the S2R JU work programme, which will add leverage and driving force to the Shift2Rail initiative.

The S2R JU is looking forward to the successful implementation of the new S2R projects and to demonstrating with its Members and the sector at large the potential for innovation to deliver a bright future for railway.

Background

A total of 56 proposals were submitted in response to S2R calls for proposals 2015 & 2016. Projects funded under this call are expected to begin in the summer of 2016 and by December 2016 at the latest. The number of proposals for each topic is shown below:

Call for S2R JU members 2015 & 2016 – total 13 proposals

Topic number - IP	No of applications
S2R-CFM-IP1-01-2016	1
S2R-CFM-IP1-02-2016	1
S2R-CFM-IP2-01-2015	1
S2R-CFM-IP3-01-2016	1
S2R-CFM-IP3-02-2016	1
S2R-CFM-IP4-01-2015	1
S2R-CFM-IP4-02-2015	1
S2R-CFM-IP5-01-2015	1
S2R-CFM-IP5-02-2015	1
S2R-CFM-IP5-03-2015	1
S2R-CFM-CCA-01-2015	1
S2R-CFM-CCA-02-2015	1
S2R-CFM-CCA-03-2015	1

Call for non-JU members – total 43 proposals

Topic number - IP	No of applications
S2R-OC-IP1-01-2016	0
S2R-OC-IP1-02-2016	3
S2R-OC-IP2-01-2015	3
S2R-OC-IP2-02-2015	2
S2R-OC-IP2-03-2015	1
S2R-OC-IP3-01-2016	4
S2R-OC-IP4-01-2016	2
S2R-OC-IP4-02-2016	1
S2R-OC-IP5-01-2015	3
S2R-OC-IP5-02-2015	3
S2R-OC-IP5-03-2015	7
S2R-OC-CCA-01-2015	3
S2R-OC-CCA-02-2015	3
S2R-OC-CCA-03-2015	4
S2R-OC-CCA-04-2015	4

The topics that S2R launched, and that will start with projects this year, cover most areas of Shift2Rail's programme[2], notably:

- Rolling stock development of concepts towards the next generation of traction systems, new concepts and architectures for train control and monitoring and advanced brakes.

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[2] http://www.shift2rail.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/S2R-JU-GB_Decision-N-15-2015-MAAP.pdf

- Rail signalling technological and operational advancement for on-board automation systems, high-capacity radio communications systems, safe train separation systems, cyber security systems, innovative testing processes, etc.
- Infrastructure whole system-approach progress enhancing and innovating switch & crossings and track systems, extending the life of bridges and tunnel assets, managing assets in a more holistic, intelligent and consistent way.
- Passenger centric IT solution for interoperable framework developments and 'one-stop shop' sale and use of tickets and travel disruption assistance applications across multiple modes ,
- Research activities targeting freight including automation, noise and LCC. New developments on freight locomotives, on driver advisory systems and intelligent freight wagons.
- Cross-cutting activities: identification of socio-economic factors that can contribute to an attractive railway system, the development of tools and approaches to enable the impacts evaluation of new technologies. Transversal evaluation and methodologies around energy, noise and vibration. Integrated approaches to deal with the safety of the railway system and planning that takes into account interdependencies in the railway system.

The four running Shift2Rail "lighthouse" projects in brief:

- In2Rail, a 36 month project, is setting the foundation for a resilient, consistent, cost-efficient, high capacity European rail network.
- IT2Rail, a 30 month project, is the first step towards the introduction of new technologies and solutions, for a fully integrated and customised travel experience.
- Roll2Rail, a 30 month project, is setting the foundation for cost-efficient and reliable trains, to revolutionise the rolling stock of the future.
- Smart Rail, a 36 month project, aims at improving rail freight services offered to shippers, focusing on five main aspects: reliability, lead time, costs, flexibility and visibility.

More information:
http://www.shift2rail.org
http://ec.europa/transport

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