



Press Release

Brussels, 24 June 2016

S2R awards first Grants

PROJECTS WORTH 167M€ WILL BE FINANCED UNDER THE FIRST SHIFT2RAIL JOINT UNDERTAKING (S2R JU) CALLS FOR RESEARCH

The S2R JU is delighted to announce that following the publication last December of its first calls for proposals, and the finalisation of the evaluation procedure, 27 grants will be awarded for a total value of the actions of 167M€, co-financed by S2R up to 88M€.

Carlo M Borghini, Executive Director of the S2R JU said: *"The evaluation procedure for the grants has been done efficiently and effectively to ensure the earliest possible start for projects. Timely delivery and effectiveness are the key focus for Shift2Rail".*

The 27 S2R JU members, other than the European Union, have presented project proposals to the 13 call topics reserved to them, for a total value of the actions of 142M€ co-financed by S2R up to 63M€. In addition the S2R JU Members have started to work on additional activities.

The open calls contained 15 topics, for which 43 proposals were received with a request of co-financing totalling 78M€. Taking into consideration the budget availabilities, 14 proposals were selected for funding for a total amount of 25M€.

A total of 454 participants applied to the different topics available under both the open calls and the calls designated for Members, of which around 25% are SMEs, more than 30% for the open calls only.

Projects funded under this call will phase-in starting in September 2016.

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, and to meet the changing transport/mobility needs of EU citizens and the economy, 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.

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.

More information:

<http://www.shift2rail.org>

<http://ec.europa/transport>

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