



DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

on the non-award of the Inducement Prize S2R-Utrain-Prize-01-2020

N°09/2021

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SHIFT2RAIL JOINT UNDERTAKING, (hereafter referred as “the S2R JU”)

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 642/2014 of 16 June 2014 establishing the S2R JU¹, and in particular Article 8(g) and (p) of the S2R JU Statutes annexed thereto,

Whereas:

- (1) On 14 November 2019, the Governing Board of the S2R JU (Decision N°08/2019) adopted the S2R JU Annual Work Programme 2020 (“AWP 2020”). This AWP 2020 is the basis for the launch of the inducement prize S2R-Utrain-Prize-01-2020, which was published on the H2020 Funding and Tenders Portal² and on the S2R JU web site³ on 22 October 2020, with a deadline for submission on 21 September 2021 at 17:00 and hearings and final evaluation in October-November 2021.
- (2) The main objective of the inducement prize is to develop an innovative solution that will allow tracking all commercial freight trains, from all railway undertakings, covering the whole European network with the aim is to provide real time information about the train, accessible to all, including information on the location, departure, destination, composition and punctuality.
- (3) The total budget for the inducement prize (prize amount) is EUR 500,000.00, offering 2 (two) awards as follows: 400,000.00 EUR for the winner and 100,000.00 EUR for the first runner-up.
- (4) In accordance with the Rules of Contest, the prize was subject to a two-step evaluation procedure.
- (5) The eleven (11) applications received were verified for their compliance with the admissibility requirements and eligibility conditions of the Rules of Contest. During the verification, it was concluded that three (3) applications failed to meet one (or more) of the admissibility and eligibility criteria and were therefore rejected. In addition, two (2) applications were identified as duplicates and withdrawn by the applicants (annex 3). As a result, 5 applications were declared admissible and eligible by the S2R JU.

¹ OJ L 177, 17.06.2014, p.9.

² <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>

³ <https://shift2rail.org/participate/unique-train-prize/>

- (6) The applications submitted were evaluated by independent experts, as set out in Article 17(2) of the S2R JU Statutes and in accordance with the evaluation rules set out in the S2R JU AWP 2020 and in the Rules of Contest. The evaluation was made against the award criteria set out in the Rules of Contest.
- (7) The first phase (evaluation phase) was carried out by a panel (jury) composed of 6 external experts, with a high level of skills, experience, and knowledge in the area(s) of the prize. During the first phase, the application(s) were evaluated by the Jury, each member evaluated each application first individually (individual evaluation) and then as a group (consensus group) to select the best-ranked proposals to pass to phase 2. Two applications passed the threshold and, in accordance with the Rules of Contest the applicants were invited to demonstrate their solutions as part of a hearing with the jury (second phase). During this second phase, each Jury member evaluated each application first individually (individual evaluation) and then as a group (consensus group). Afterwards, the jury compared all applications (jury panel review) and established the panel ranked list (Annex 1).
- (8) Following the hearings and the establishment of the panel ranked list, the jury decided not to select any of the two applications neither as a winner nor as 1st runner-up due to the insufficient quality of the proposals and demonstrations.
- (9) The Governing Board takes note and acknowledged the Report of the Executive Director on the outcome of the inducement prize S2R-Utrain-Prize-01-2020, which includes the EU Prizes: Call Evaluation Report (CER) with its annexes as well as the individual evaluation summary reports which will be attached to the individual notification letters to be sent to the applicants. Nevertheless, Annex 7 (Evaluation summary reports) of the CER was not disclosed to the Industry Members of the Governing Board due to the risk of Conflict of Interest.
- (10) In accordance with the CER, the S2R JU, Executive Director, proposes the Governing Board not to award the inducement prize S2R-Utrain-Prize-01-2020 and transfer the budget allocated to the prize (EUR 500,000.00) to the implementation of the procurement contract for the support to ERTMS European Action Plan.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

To approve the report of the Executive Director, including the ranked list pertaining to the inducement prize S2R-Utrain-Prize-01-2020 (Annex 1), the list of below threshold applications (Annex 2) as well as the list of inadmissible and ineligible applications (annex 3), and not to award the inducement prize.

Article 2

The Executive Director shall inform the applicants of the results of the evaluation and shall communicate simultaneously to each of them the relevant individual evaluation summary report, as an attachment to the notification letter.

Article 3

To endorse the proposal of the Executive Director on the re-allocation of the budget initially committed for the inducement prize S2R-Utrain-Prize-01-2020 and request the Executive Director to introduce such change as part of an amendment to the AWP 2021 to be submitted to the Governing Board.

Article 4

This Decision shall enter into force on the day following that of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, on 25 November 2021.

For the Governing Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of three vertical strokes followed by a circular flourish and a long horizontal stroke that curves upwards at the end.

Henrik HOLELEI
The Chairperson

- Annex 1:** Ranked list pertaining to the inducement prize S2R-Utrain-Prize-01-2020
- Annex 2:** List of below threshold applications pertaining to the inducement prize S2R-Utrain-Prize-01-2020
- Annex 3:** List of inadmissible and ineligible applications pertaining to the inducement prize S2R-Utrain-Prize-01-2020