



Press Release

13.03.2024

FP5-TRANS4M-R Midterm Plenary Event

Europe's Rail funded Flagship Project (FP) 5 TRANS4M-R will meet in a Midterm Plenary to present the project's progress since it began in 2022, on 16th May 2024 from 10:30 to 17:00. Recent achievements, current planning and relevant milestones will be included and explained in detail. All interested parties are invited to join the livestream from Vienna where the Plenary will be hosted by our partner ÖBB. [Register here to receive the livestream invitation](#) and we will send you the complete agenda prior to the meeting.

FP5-TRANS4M-R Midterm Plenary Event Highlights

To kick off Mark Topal-Gökceli, CTO, ÖBB-Holding, and the Vice-Chairman of the FP5-TRANS4M-R Steering Group, Paolo Pagliero, CTO, Wabtec Corporation, will open the Midterm Plenary Event. Molley Williams, as FP5-TRANS4M-R representative, and Javier Ibáñez de Yrigoyen, representing Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking, will contextualise the project within the objectives of Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking.

Four in-depth sessions and one presentation will take place during the course of the afternoon which will highlight specific FP5-TRANS4M-R topics. All sessions will involve an introductory keynote speech and subsequent panel discussion. **DAC technological development** will be elaborated on by supplier and operator representatives. **The progress and challenges presented by Testing, Demonstration, Authorisation and Yard Automation** will be discussed by FP5-TRANS4M-R representatives from all four domains. The interaction between the **Innovation Pillar, System Pillar and the European DAC Delivery Programme (EDDP)** will be examined by both internal and external project experts. Eventually, the state of play of **Innovative Freight Assets** such as Multimodal Container solutions and Self-Propelled Freight Wagons will be presented by the responsible partners. The last session, covering **Seamless Rail Freight** progress, will provide an overview of the achievements in this project field. Finally, the project coordinator Patrick Seeßle will conclude the Midterm Plenary Event.

The event will be moderated by Jens Engelmann (railiable), the Co-Programme Manager of EDDP.

All FP5-TRANS4M-R partners, its affiliated entities and all associated partners are looking forward to presenting their results in Vienna. Join online to get in-depth information, visit the FP5-TRANS4M-R and the Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking websites to find out more and follow the [EU-Rail LinkedIn Channel](#) and our hashtags to stay up to date.

#dac #fp5 #transformingrailfreight #EU_Rail

Achievements in FP5-TRANS4M-R since 2022

In the field of **Full Digital Freight Train Operations**, several major achievements have been made where the Digital Automatic Coupling, Train Functions, Automated Shunting Operations, Innovative Freight Assets and milestones with regards to testing and challenges on ongoing demonstration preparation are concerned.

In early 2023, the **Preliminary Operational Procedures for Full Digital Freight Train Operations** were published and presented to the European Rail sector. They will be verified and adapted, if necessary, until the end of the project, resulting in the first harmonised operational procedures for rail freight in Europe.

In late 2023, the **requirements specification for Yard Automation** was finalised. These requirements are the basis for development of Automation Solutions, that have been made possible by the DAC.

In early 2024, the **Technical Specifications for Digital Automatic Coupling up to Type 5 were completed, with some topics requiring further work**. These conclude the functional and mechanical requirements for DACs, thus ensuring interoperable DAC design.

In the field of **Seamless Rail Freight**, the **specification phase for FP5-TRANS4M-R was successfully brought to a close at the end of 2023**. These specifications are the foundation for the development work for Seamless Planning of Rail Freight Services, Dynamic Dispatching Tools, Intermodal Monitoring and Prediction, Multi-Country licensed loco drivers, Standardised European Railway Checkpoints and Multimodal Integration.

FP5-TRANS4M-R at a glance: Transforming Europe's Rail Freight

FP5-TRANS4M-R's overall goal is to establish rail freight as the backbone of a low-emission, resilient European logistics chain which fulfils end-user requirements to full satisfaction. Two technological clusters, 'Full Digital Freight Train Operation (FDFTO)' and 'Seamless Freight Operation', will develop, validate and demonstrate FP5-TRANS4M-R technologies, in line with an integrated cross-sector systemic approach. Integrating Digital Automatic Coupler (DAC)-enabled solutions with software defined systems and digital rail services will ensure increased capacity, higher throughput and swifter transportation. It will strengthen the cross-border coordination and cooperation between rail infrastructure managers and deliver optimised rail network management. FP5-TRANS4M-R's seamless, integrated, interoperable, validated and EU-wide authorised solutions aim to achieve a single EU rail freight technology framework with strictly managed interfaces for effective system integration and seamless operation

across borders, actors and modes. These objectives represent the foundations, framework and motivation behind the project which will have a significant impact on the EU transport and logistics sector.

FP5-TRANS4M-R brings together **75 partners from across the rail sector** including end-users, industrial partners, railway undertakings, operators, wagon keepers, SMEs and academia. The project will deliver on the rail freight sector's commitment to **increasing the modal split share to 50% by 2030**, revoking the causality between economic growth in Europe and pollution and having a positive impact on European citizens' quality of life.

<https://projects.rail-research.europa.eu/eurail-fp5/>

About Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking

The Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking (EU-RAIL) is the European partnership for rail research and innovation under the Horizon Europe programme (2020-2027) and the successor to the Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking. The partnership aims to accelerate research and development in innovative technologies and operational solutions. It supports EU policies and objectives for the rail sector, its competitiveness, and the European rail supply industry. EU-Rail accelerates the use of integrated, interoperable and standardised technological innovations necessary to support the Single European Railway Area.

<https://rail-research.europa.eu/>

Communication Contact FP5-TRANS4M-R: fp5-trans4m-r@v2c2.at

Communication Contact Europe's Rail: Communication@rail-research.europa.eu



The project is supported by the Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking and its members.



Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.