

**DECISION OF THE HIGH-LEVEL DEPLOYMENT GROUP**

**Adopting the Alignment between EU-RAIL Deployment Group and ERTMS Stakeholder Platform**

**N° 03/2025**

THE HIGH-LEVEL DEPLOYMENT GROUP OF THE EUROPE'S RAIL JOINT UNDERTAKING, NOTES

- Europe's Rail alignment between EU-RAIL Deployment Group and ERTMS Stakeholder Platform

THE HIGH-LEVEL DEPLOYMENT GROUP OF THE EUROPE'S RAIL JOINT UNDERTAKING, AGREES

- The approval and release of the following documents:
  - Alignment between EU-RAIL Deployment Group and ERTMS Stakeholder Platform

DATE: 13/02/2025

Annex I: Alignment between EU-RAIL DpG and ERTMS stakeholder Platform

## ANNEX I

### ALIGNMENT BETWEEN EU-RAIL DEPLOYMENT GROUP AND ERTMS STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM

#### **Purpose of this Document:**

Make the EU-RAIL Deployment Group and ERTMS scope and complementarity is well understood.

#### **Basis Documents:**

- Draft Proposal for the Objectives and Possible Organization of the ERTMS Stakeholder Platform V1 2024 and ERTMS MoU 2016
- EU-RAIL Deployment Group: Governing Board Decision, Deployment Group Concept paper and Minutes of the First Meeting

#### **Distinct Focus Areas of Both Groups:**

##### ***1. ERTMS Stakeholder Platform***

The ERTMS Stakeholder Platform is a consultative forum supported by the MoU 2016, that provides strategic guidance for Change Control Management.

The purpose of the ERTMS Stakeholder Platform is to develop a shared vision and commitment for the further roll-out of the ERTMS, facilitating alignment and fostering coherence at the EU level for individual strategies and actions.

As significant deployment of ERTMS has already been achieved, and ERTMS is in commercial operation in several Member States, therefore, a key task of the Stakeholder Platform is to complement the System Authority ERA in aligning and managing changes to the system, in particular those with impact on the existing installed base.

The Stakeholder Platform operates at a strategic level, aiming to streamline overall coordination, secure commitment, define priority areas, and provide general guidance to achieve progress.

It is not an expert group for devising and monitoring specific actions but rather focuses on high-level, strategic orientation.

Key objectives include:

- Developing a common vision and commitment, in particular achieving and maintaining end-to-end interoperability for ERTMS-fitted trains.
- Supporting the System Authority ERA by facilitating alignment and coherence.
- Promoting strategic cooperation.
- Supporting the ERTMS coordinator.
- For 2024, the focus will be on drafting a new Memorandum of Understanding.
- No detailed technical or operational tasks are foreseen, even within subgroups.

## 2. EU-RAIL Deployment Group (DpG)

The EU-RAIL Deployment Group is a group supported by the Single Basic Act<sup>1</sup>. The EU-RAIL Deployment Group targets strengthening the sector's capability to contribute to sustainability and accelerating the market introduction of rail innovations. The Deployment Group can be considered as a “stakeholder” group that “shall be open to all stakeholders. The composition of the Deployment Group shall ensure appropriate thematic focus and representativeness”. The advice is given on deploying innovative solutions that comes out of the EU-RAIL Programme. The Group’s lifetime is limited to the existence of EU-RAIL (2031) or its successor.

The focus areas include:

- European coordination of deployment needs in particular for new technologies not covered by other deployment mechanisms and with a focus on the coordinated introduction of the harmonised System Architecture as defined by the System Pillar.
- Development of deployment packages, including technical and operational migration scenarios, in order to align the individual investment decisions by IMs and RUs, so that the intended scale effects at European level can be achieved for the EU railway system.
- Investment planning, funding, and financing.
- Formulating recommendations to the Joint Undertaking, the European Commission, and Member States on deploying innovative solutions requiring coordinated European deployment.
- Feedback to the System Pillar on appropriate migration strategies, and on technical and operational priorities

The Deployment Group is technically and operationally driven, analysing, and suggesting implementation possibilities for major change programs (such as in particular the broader CCS which is a major contributor to IM and RU CAPEX an OPEX, support for the deployment of FRMCS, ATO), conducting common business analyses, and managing risk-based approaches. In this context, the Deployment Group needs to support and steer the individual business decisions of the entities involved.

Key features include:

- Timing and EU synchronization of deployment solutions.
- Complementing specific work not covered by Implementation Plans (IP) or Strategic Plans (SP) necessary for informed deployment recommendations.
- C-level attendance from various railway operators, infrastructure managers, associations, and suppliers.
- Seeking operational solutions for challenging implementations.
- Providing European support for national investment plans as needed.
- Establishing dedicated subgroups on various topics (to be confirmed by the high-level Deployment Group).
- Being highly result-driven and focused on deliverables.

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<sup>1</sup> Council Regulation (EU) 2021/2085, of 19 November 2021, establishing the Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe and repealing Regulations (EC) No 219/2007, (EU) No 557/2014, (EU) No 558/2014, (EU) No 559/2014, (EU) No 560/2014, (EU) No 561/2014 and (EU) No 642/2014. Article 97.

## **Summary**

From the above it can be concluded there is no relationship of controls between the two groups. Coherence will be maintained thanks to the coordination between EC, ERA, the ERTMS coordinator and EU-RAIL. In particular, this coordination can take the following form:

- The Stakeholder platform developing overall vision for ERTMS roll-out, but with key consideration of the impact on the already installed base, with the Deployment Group building on this vision to align the practical implementation in the focus area, in particular the broader CCS.
- The Deployment Group issuing recommendations aligned with the overall vision, but with the strong focus on those areas.