Europe's Rail

FRMCS subgroup of the Deployment Group - Fourth Meeting

13th November 2024
9:00 – 10:00
On-line meeting

Participants

	Name	Company	Present
1.	Jesús Santiago	ADIF	Yes
2.	José Alberto González	ADIF	No
3.	Sara Caramés	ADIF	Yes
4.	Jean-François Caubet	AERRL	Yes
5.	Pierre Cotelle	Alstom	Yes
6.	Jose Antonio Quintano	CAF	Yes
7.	Jean-Philippe Gachot	CER	No
8.	Paweł Bernacik	CER	Yes
9.	Dittrich Jaroslav	CER	Yes
10.	Achim Vrielink	DB	Yes
11.	Holger Lietz	DB	Yes
12.	Markus Neubacher	DB	No
13.	Morten Schläger	DB	No
14.	Marco Schwarz	DB	Yes
15.	Bardo Schettini	EIM	Yes
16.	Giuseppe Miccoli	EIM	No
17.	Maria Cataldo	FSI	No
18.	Leonardo Malesci	FSI	Yes
19.	Luca Di Dio La Leggia	FSI	No

20. Cataffo Vittorio	FSI	Yes
21. Felice Iusto	FSI	Yes
22. Arild Nybrodahl	Bane NOR	Yes
23. Johann Lienhart	OEBB	Yes
24. Erik Hadl	OEBB	Yes
25. Manfred Schienbein	Siemens	No
26. Eric Giraud-Desjuzeur	SNCF	Yes
27. Simon Gouyou-Beauchamps	SNCF	Yes
28. Pascal Désaunay	SNCF	No
29. Pipsa Hallner	Trafikverket	Yes
30. Mats Malmström	Trafikverket	Yes
31. Dan Mandoc	UIC	Yes
32. Michael Mikulandra	UNIFE	Yes
33. Jorgen Mattisson	UNIFE	Yes
34. Martin Schroeder	ERA	No
35. Giacomo Potenza	ERA	No
36. Wawrzyniec Perschke	DG MOVE	Yes
37. Karel Van Gils	EU-RAIL	Yes
38. Alfonso Lorenzo	Ineco	Yes

Agenda

1. Opening and introduction
2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting
3. Feedback from HL DpG: remit and work plan
4. Building of working groups (members and coordinators)
5. Management of the program
6. AOB

Minutes of the Meeting

1. Opening and introduction

Karel Van Gils (EU-RAIL) welcomed the members.

Achim Vrielink (DB) asked information on some topics related to the CTO Council meeting. It was agreed to address this subject on the AOB point of the agenda.

2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

The MoM on the 11th of October meeting approved.

Actions in the MoM were taken and finalised.

3. Feedback from HL DpG: remit and work plan

Karel introduced the feedback from HL DpG (see the meeting presentation).

Michael Mikulandra (UNIFE) asked how facing the risk of circular dependency between ETSI activities and the testing and validation activities that could lead on delays on the FRMCS plan. Pipsa Hallner (Trafikverket) indicated that circular references should be avoided. Wawka Perschke (DG MOVE) noted that this point is link to the CTO Council meeting. Therefore, it was agreed to address this subject on the AOB point of the agenda.

Dan Mandoc (UIC) highlighted the importance of distinguishing between two key topics related to the MNO: the technical aspect, which should facilitate an interoperable connection with MNOs, and the legal aspect, which encompasses the inclusion of the obligation to equip railway lines with a sufficient quality of service within the 5G license. Wawka suggested that the FRCMS subgroup undertake the task of identifying the Member States where the 5G license includes these obligations, as this could potentially lead to a reduction in costs (e.g., masts, antennas, etc.), and analyse the pros and cons of this MNO scenario.

4. Building of working groups (members and coordinators)

Karel introduced the three WG proposed in the workplan (see the meeting presentation).

Karel asked volunteers to coordinate the WG. Pipsa Hallner offered herself to coordinate the WG 3: Migration and Alignment. There were no objections. Her proposal was agreed.

No coordinator for both WG1: Technical issues and WG2: Financial and legal is offered.

It was agreed to send a mail to both WG 1 and WG 2 members asking volunteers to coordinate each WG [*Action: write to WG1 and WG2 members asking volunteers to coordinate each WG*]

In addition, it was agreed to send to each WGs members the definitive list of members and the draft remits of the FRMCS subgroup to be considered and worked on it by the groups themselves. [*Action: send the definitive list of members and draft remits to the 3 WGs*]

Sending the individual kick of meetings for the 3 WG's agreed. [*Action: Send the individual KoM for the 3 WGs*]

Wawka communicated that the ERA Technical Opinion concerning the compatibility of ETCS-FRMCS has been published[1]. Additionally, an expert group meeting is scheduled to be organized to deliberate on this matter within the framework of the RISC. Wawka affirmed that this group will be accessible to experts.

5. Management of the program

Karel introduced the management of the FRMCS subgroup topic (see the meeting presentation).

It was clarified that it is full-time job without remuneration, but it could be done by a team, depending on the number of applicants. The time frame is 2027, align with the FRMCS subgroup workplan but is preferably to have continuity unto 2035 to follow all the FRMCS deployment process. Note after the meeting, possibilities to fund the professional programme manager are currently investigated by EU-RAIL.

The profile (see SharePoint) was sent out to the members of the HL DpG and FRMCS Deployment Group. Also, a supervisor on C-level is asked.

6. AOB

Karel informed that the upcoming FRMCS subgroup meetings are scheduled for the 4th December, the 15th January, and the 5th February.

In relation to the CTO Council discussions, Achim Vrielink inquired about the timeline for the FRMCS specifications, expressing concerns about whether the quality of the specifications would meet the expectations of the railway community and whether there was a possibility of a delay in the release of the FRMCS version 3 specifications. Wawka provided an update, stating that the UIC had delivered the FRMCS specifications in March 2024, but a significant number of comments were received from ERA and the industry. This influx of comments indicates that the specifications may not have been adequately prepared. Wawka reflected on the need for alternative measures to meet the 2027 deadline. The ETSI input is expected to be officially delivered by the end of 2025 for formal approval, but it will be available by mid-2025.

Achim Vrielink raised concerns about the risks associated with developing FRMCS if the specifications are delayed, highlighting the potential for some Member States to postpone the deployment of FRMCS. Jesús Santiago (Adif) indicated that Adif is involved in FRMCS activities, such as MORANE 2, and based on his information, there have been no changes to the plan and the version 3 of the FRMCS specifications is scheduled to be included in the CCS TIS 2027.

Karel states that the specifications are developed under the responsibility of UIC and are input for the Deployment Group, not for decision and discussion in this group.

Karel thanks all attendees for their active input and participation.

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[1] https://www.era.europa.eu/content/opinion-eraopi2024-3-european-union-agency-railways-regarding-etcs-frmcs-compatibility

Action List

No.	Action	Owner	Deadline	Status
1	Write to WG1 and WG2 members asking volunteers to coordinate each WG	Karel Van Gils & Alfonso Lorenzo	ASAP	Open
2	Send the definitive list of members and draft remits to the 3 WGs	Karel Van Gils & Alfonso Lorenzo	ASAP	Open
3	Send the individual KoM for the 3 WG's agreed.	Alfonso Lorenzo	ASAP	Open
4	Add Holger Lietz in both WG1 and WG3 lists on Teams shared folder	Alfonso Lorenzo	ASAP	Open