

PRESS RELEASE

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Rail sector joins forces to contribute to sustainable and smart mobility in Europe

Transport accounts for a quarter of the EU’s greenhouse gas emissions, which are projected to grow further upon a post-pandemic return to business-as-usual. To achieve the EU Green Deal’s climate-neutrality objective, European transport policy will need to pursue an unprecedented ambition of a 90% reduction in transport emissions by 2050. The European rail sector, represented by the Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER), the Association of the European Rail Infrastructure Managers (EIM) and the Association of the European Rail Supply Industry (UNIFE), joined forces to contribute to the forthcoming EU strategy for sustainable and smart mobility.

The rail sector urges policy makers to pursue ambitious climate objectives in order to make the EU transport strategy compliant with the EU Green Deal. The forthcoming EU mobility strategy should build on the 2011 Transport White Paper objectives and create a seamless, frictionless single European transport area. CER, EIM and UNIFE are proud to present rail’s pledge ([accessible here](#)) to play an ever more important role in implementing the forthcoming strategy, which should help support Europe’s economic and social upturn following the COVID-19 sanitary crisis.

CER Executive Director Libor Lochman said: *“Building on their strong environmental credentials railways must be empowered to fully play their role as the backbone of a digitalised and seamless multimodal system in the forthcoming strategy for sustainable and smart mobility.”*

EIM Executive Director Monika Heimig noted: *“It is crucial for Europe to have a strong, future oriented mobility strategy that places green transport such as rail at its heart. The European Rail Infrastructure Managers are highly motivated to fully exploit the potential of rail and to tackle the future challenges.”*

UNIFE Director General Philippe Citroën remarked: *“Rail is entirely part of the solution needed to fulfil the Green Deal’s climate neutrality ambitions. European rail manufacturers are committed to making rail the backbone of a sustainable and smart mobility system, supported by digitalisation and Research & Innovation”.*

<p>For more information:</p>	
<p>Eva Böckle CER Head of Communications E: eva.boeckle@cer.be T: +32 (0)2 213 08 90 M: +32 (0) 473 32 20 94</p>	<p>The Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER) brings together railway undertakings, their national associations as well as infrastructure managers and vehicle leasing companies. The membership is made up of long-established bodies, new entrants and both private and public enterprises, representing 71% of the rail network length, 76% of the rail freight business and about 92% of rail passenger operations in EU, EFTA</p>

	<p>and EU accession countries. CER represents the interests of its members towards EU policy makers and transport stakeholders, advocating rail as the backbone of a competitive and sustainable transport system in Europe. For more information, visit www.cer.be or follow @CER_railways on Twitter.</p>
<p>Guus de Bruijn EU Legal and Policy Expert E: guus.debruijn@eimrail.org T: +32 (0)2 234 37 73</p>	<p>EIM, the association of European Rail Infrastructure Managers, was established in 2002 to promote the interests and views of the independent Infrastructure Managers in Europe, following the liberalisation of the railway market. It also provides technical expertise to the appropriate European bodies such as the European Union Agency for Railways. EIM's primary goal is promoting growth of rail traffic and the development of an open, sustainable, efficient and customer orientated rail network in Europe. To find out more about EIM, visit www.eimrail.org or follow @EIMRail on Twitter.</p>
<p>Andrei Ciufu UNIFE Head of Communications E: andrei.ciufu@unife.org T: +32 (0)2 626 12 64</p>	<p>UNIFE represents the European Rail Supply Industry in Brussels since 1992. The association gathers more than 100 of Europe's leading large and medium-sized rail supply companies active in the design, manufacture, maintenance, and refurbishment of rail transport systems, subsystems and related equipment. UNIFE also brings together 12 national rail industry associations of European countries. For more information, visit www.unife.org or follow @unife on Twitter or on LinkedIn.</p>