Round-table #1: Cross-border functional urban areas

Cross-border Rail Connections, 10 June 2021
Josef Doppelbauer, Executive Director
European Union Agency for Railways (ERA)

The European Authority for Railways

› Founded in 2004
› 190+ staff
› Headquartered in Valenciennes, FR (meeting facilities in Lille)

“Traditional tasks” as technical Agency of the European Union:
Technical rules and standards for railways safety and interoperability

“New tasks” after the 4th Railway Package (16 June 2019):
Vehicle Authorisation, Safety Certification, ERTMS Approval
Who is in charge for cross-border issues?
Clarity of decision making?
Who carries the extra cost?
European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS)
Frictionless Train Movement in the Single European Railway Area

The Role of ERA as ERTMS System Authority is Strengthened with the 4th Railway Package

ERTMS now becoming a de-facto standard, instead of a toolbox with 50 variants

Compliance with technical regulation is granted by ERA:
- On-board: vehicle authorisation
- Infrastructure: ERTMS trackside approval

ERTMS trackside approval

EU-wide Authorisation/Certification/ERTMS trackside approval

Single Rail Area - harmonised specification

Operators work seamlessly across borders (in competition)
Making the railway system work better for society.

Follow us on  

Discover job opportunities at era.europa.eu