



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT

The Director-General

Brussels
MOVE.DDG2.C.3/VZ

TO RAIL STAKEHOLDERS

Subject: European Rail Facilities Portal

Dear Madam/Sir,

It is my pleasure to inform you of the positive developments of one of the digital projects that the Commission initiated in the rail sector.

As you may know, the Commission funded the development and deployment of the **European Rail Facilities Portal** (<https://railfacilitiesportal.eu/>). The Portal became operational in 2019. It was recently taken over by RailNetEurope, who plan to work intensively on its development, in cooperation with all rail stakeholders and with the expert support of the International Union for Road-Rail Combined Transport (UIRR).

The project is an example of the ever-growing cooperation between rail stakeholders and of the digitalisation of the sector. The Portal is a digital tool that supports the efforts of the Commission to promote competition in the transport sector by ensuring access to information on rail facilities. The Commission has put forward rules that require rail service facility operators to make publicly available the service facility description free of charge. Now the Portal makes access to this information much easier.

I should point out that all stakeholders are providing input for the development of the Portal. The Commission has allocated EU funding through the Connecting Europe Facility. Business associations including several kinds of stakeholders of the sector, such as Allrail, CEFIC, CER, EIM, ERFA, ESPO, Feport, UIC, UIP, UIRR and UNIFE have been involved for over a year in the work on developing the Portal into a common European business tool. Economic operators and rail regulators have been contributing as well.

I would like to invite all rail transport stakeholders to use the Portal and to explore its functionalities. I also call for supporting this initiative in any way possible and in particular by contributing to the development of the tool by actively participating in and

contributing to the work of the Portal's Technical Control Board and Governance Board,
and to the digitalisation of rail services by publishing service facility information in it.

Yours faithfully,

(e-signed):

Henrik HOLOLEI