

# Benjamin Petutschnig

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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

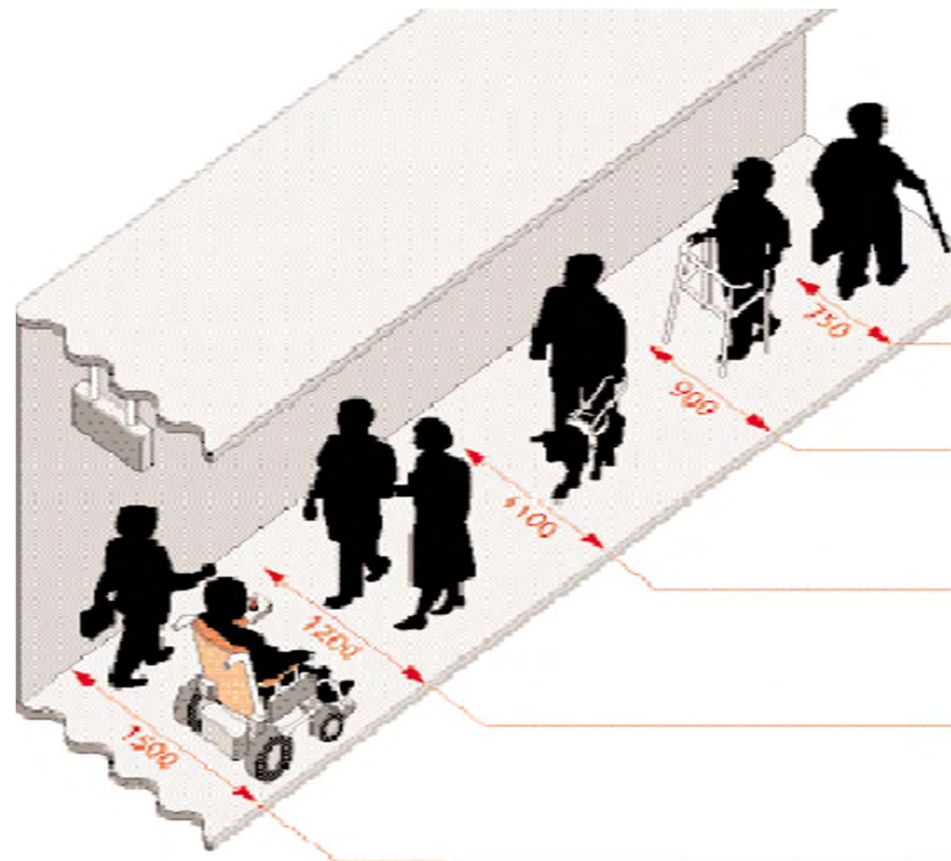
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The company's Services:

Source: Department for Transport, London, U.K.

*Our speciality = Accessibility ->*

- Advisory & Consultancy for Stakeholders Operators, Civil Engineers/Architects on Accessibility Concepts for interoperable & intermodal public transport systems, covering all modes of transport for Persons of Reduced Mobility (PRM)

*-> individual transport ->  
-> public transport - underground/  
tramway/urban/intercity bus –  
lightrail -> railways -> aviation*



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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

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The company´s Services:

- Door to Door Mobility Concepts and Development of Accessibility Services in order to provide social inclusion -> *part of Urban Mobility*
- R&D Project Management & Funding Advisory on e.g. Intelligent Transport Systems
- Cooperation with Universities & Research Institutions e.g. for Dynamic Transport Planning, Railways and Transport Engineering on an int´l level
- Shared space projects, transport projects anticipating accessibility & its critical interfaces
- safety for disabled people - Crash Severeness & Crashworthiness

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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### Traveling Wheelchair Occupants:



ictures, left:  
Austrian Federal Railways ÖBB (Infrastructure Division&Transportation Division), right: WESTbahn (A)



## Persons with reduced Mobility

### Groups according to TSI PRM

#### Travel impairments

Luggage,  
prams,  
3 and more children  
non locals

#### "Life Cycle" impairments

Children,  
Pregnant women,  
elderly people

#### Physical impairments

Wheelchair occupants  
Blind and visually impaired people  
Deaf and hearing impaired users

#### People with communication difficulties

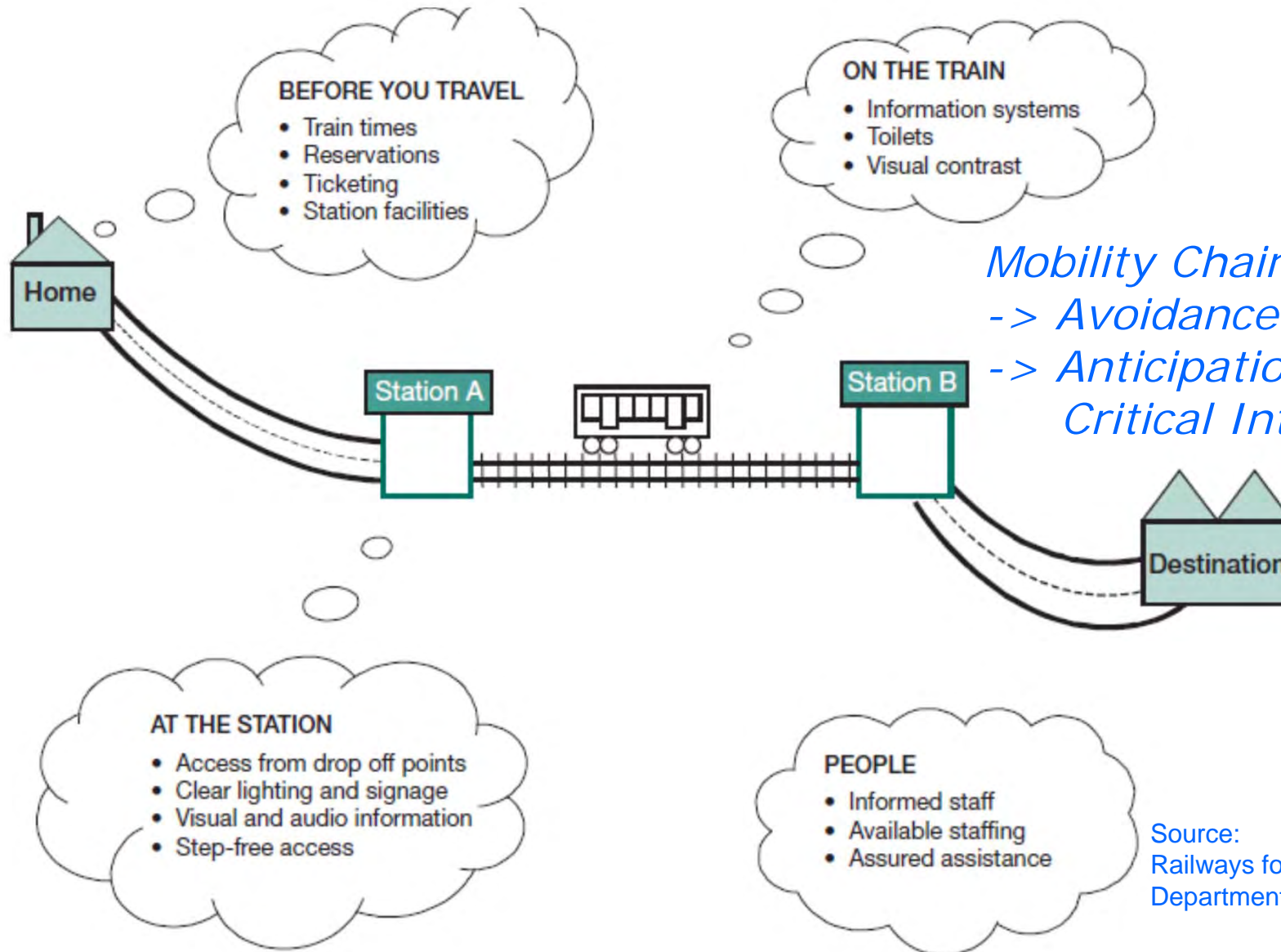
learning difficulties

*Source: Barta/Petutschnig, 2010,  
Conference on Public Transport at the  
Ministry of Transport, Innovation  
& Technology, Austria*

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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems



*Mobility Chain – Key Aspects*  
-> Avoidance of Missing Links  
-> Anticipation of Critical Interfaces

Source:  
Railways for All Accessibility Strategy,  
Department for Transport, London

### Accessibility of Public Transportation Systems – Legal basis:

- “Equality & Social” Inclusion:  
Accessibility for Everybody ->
- Fundamentals of the  
UN Human Rights Convention =
- Basis of the  
European Disability Act &  
EU Strategy 2010-2020
- Bundes-Behindertengleichstellungsgesetz 2006-2016 (Austria)
- Disability Discrimination Act (UK)



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Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

Interoperability Directives

2008/57/EC, 2004/50/EC ...

Technical Specifications of Interoperability TSI PRM, TSI PAS ...

European Standards / Norms: CEN, national Bodies



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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

- Directive 2008/57/EC  
(conventional and High-Speed Railway System)  
TSI PRM  
Technical Specifications for Interoperability –  
Persons with Reduced Mobility  
TSI PAS / Infrastructure,  
all TSI subject to revision conducted by ERA ->  
basis for CEN Norms





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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### Other European Transport Legislation and int'l Norms (national/international)

- ISO 7193, ISO 7176-19 (ISO 10542) :  
Design Requirements for wheelchairs  
(crashtested) & certified for use in  
Transportation (crash tested with 50kmh,  
20g frontal/rear impact)
- Universal Access Code (U.S.A) for  
accessible buildings and infrastructure,  
according to ADA (Americans with  
Disability Act), FMVSS (Federal Motor  
Vehicle Standard), ASI Norm B1600  
Austria



Best Practice Example: ÖBB Railjet – MBB Palfinger Lift

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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

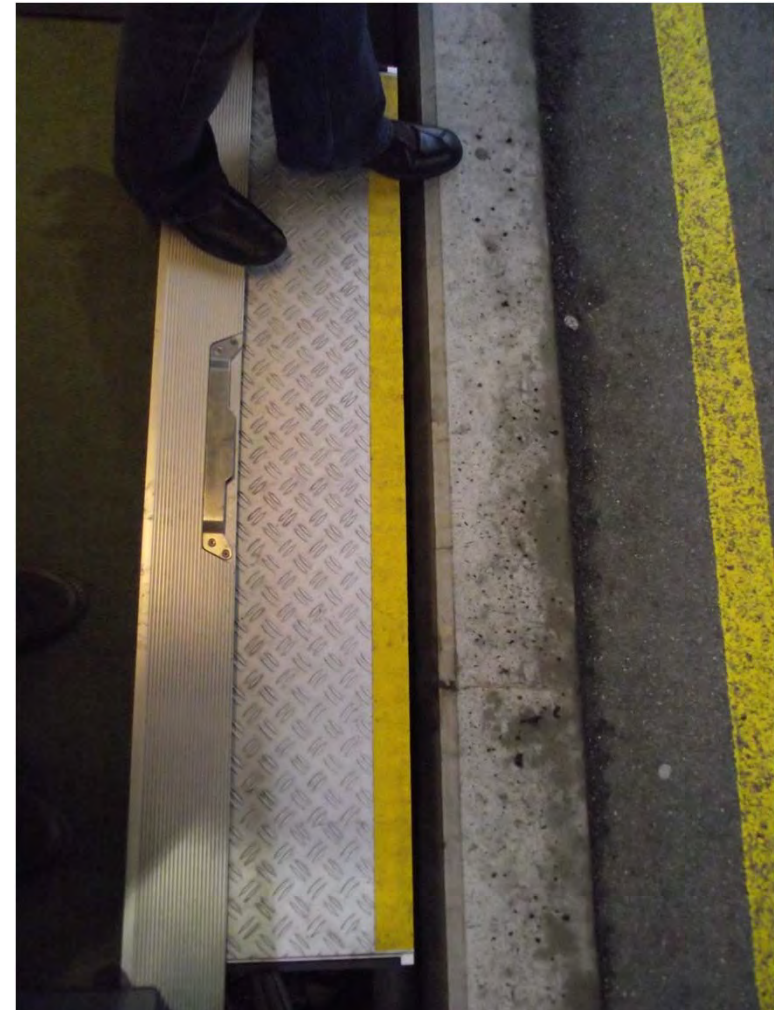
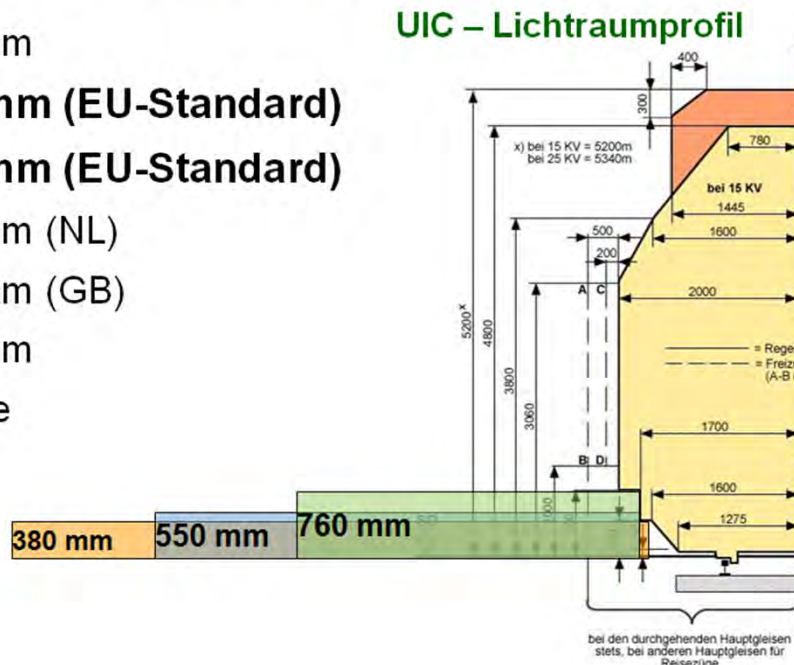
critical Interface:

Rail Vehicle / Station Platform

Floor height vehicle / platform height

### Bahnsteighöhen in Europa

- 380 mm
- **550 mm (EU-Standard)**
- **760 mm (EU-Standard)**
- 840 mm (NL)
- 915 mm (GB)
- 960 mm
- andere



Source. Kollman/Wieder, Siemens A



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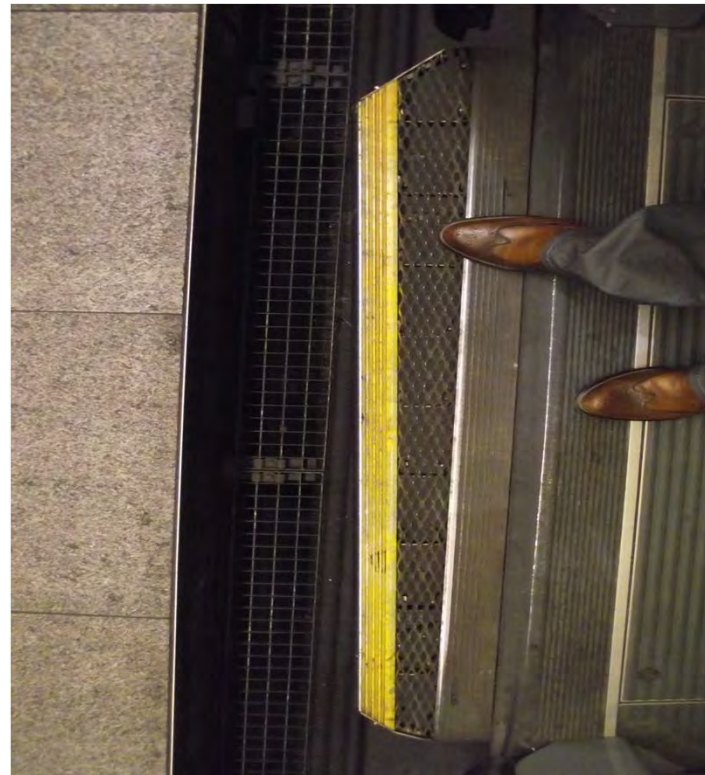
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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### TSI PRM Structure



### Infrastructure



critical Interface:

Rail Vehicle / Station Platform

Floor height vehicle / platform height

**Rail vehicle:** Entrance Door Width) → Boarding/alighting Steps → Lighting of Steps/Entrance Area → Accessibility Aids → Room to manouvre → Handles → Level Differences → Passenger Information System → Doors inside Vehicle → Allocated Seats for the Disabled → Wheelchair Area → Standard Toilet → Universal Toilet (incl Baby Care Facilities) → Wheelchair adapted Sleeping Compartments



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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

- European Legislation - EU Directives within Public Transportation:

Bus Directive 2001/85 ECE\*:

Accessibility of the vehicle (ramps, kneeling systems, lifts)  
& wheelchair & occupant restraint systems (WTORS) for wheelchair occupant & bus passenger safety

- \*Annex VII:  
Directive specifies minimum requirements vs.  
"Free-Will" higher national requirements, Sweden:  
implemented higher requirements for WC-Occupant  
3-Point Belts in Busses – e.g. Scandinavia (Volvo, Scania)



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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

National Norm UK: Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations RVAR

National Norm GER: DIN 75078

Covering individual automotive transport and community transport services (minibuses), [M1]

NL: Code VVR minibus – rolstoel verfoer (community transport)





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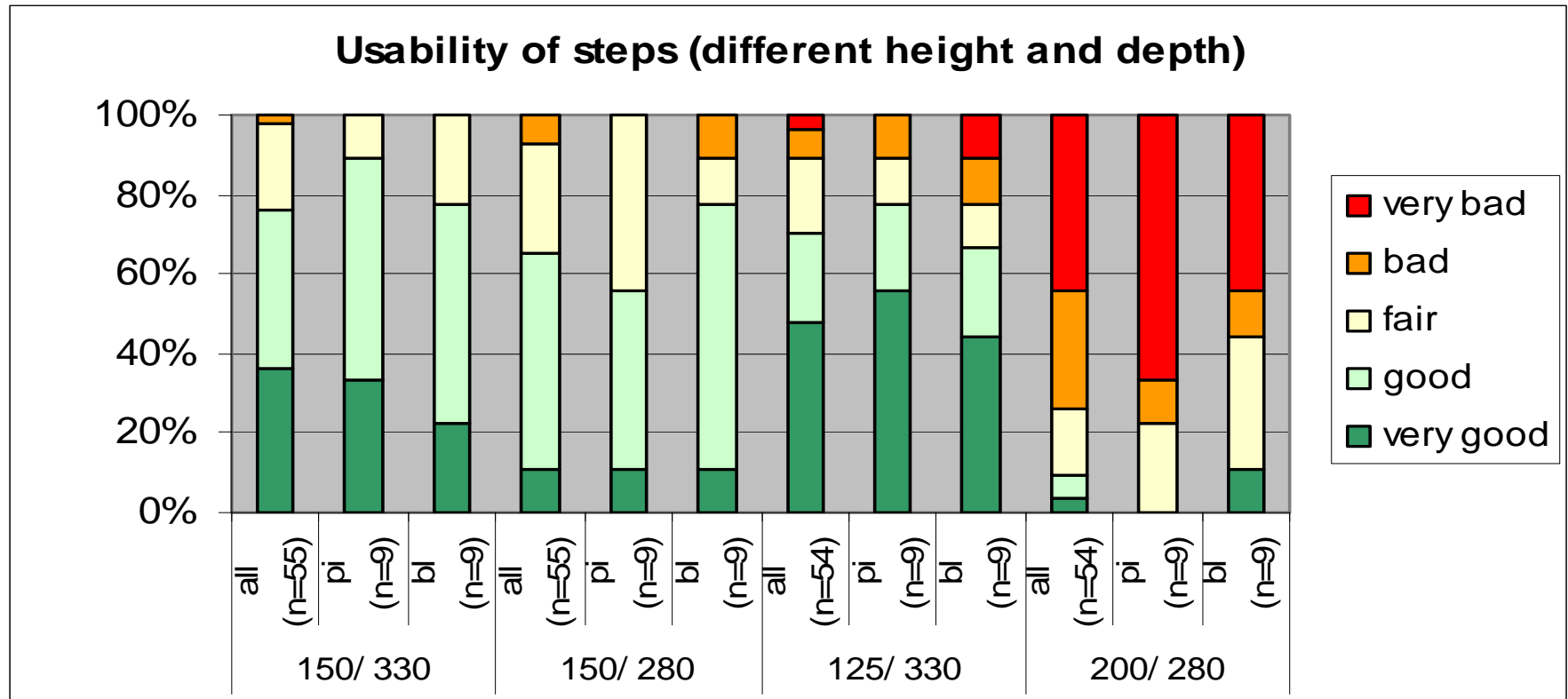
## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### Blind users:

- Gap between Platform and Rail Vehicle
- Entrance area with steps
- Handrails







pi...physically impaired

\*200/280 = TSI PRM limit

bl...blind users

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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### Usability Testing



easy or comfortable:  
reach without much  
movement of  
the torso vs. maximum or  
extended -just possible with  
movement abilities  
of the upper torso.

*"Code of Practice (BS 8300)*

### Visually Impaired users

- Sufficient Contrast to identify the entrance
- Contrast / Steps
- Flooring of the entrance area

### Deaf People

- Entrance situation bearing no Problem
- Information in real time  
(train delay, change of platforms)
- Assistance of the staff





### Elderly People

- Not only defined by age
- Combination of impairments
- Steps with handrails



### Parents with Prams prefer ramps - no lift !

- Ease of use, as long as not too steep (->TSI PRM, RVAR regulations)
- if there is no other help available, such as PRM service programs by
- SNCF Accès+, SBB "Mobihelfer", RENFE "Atendo"

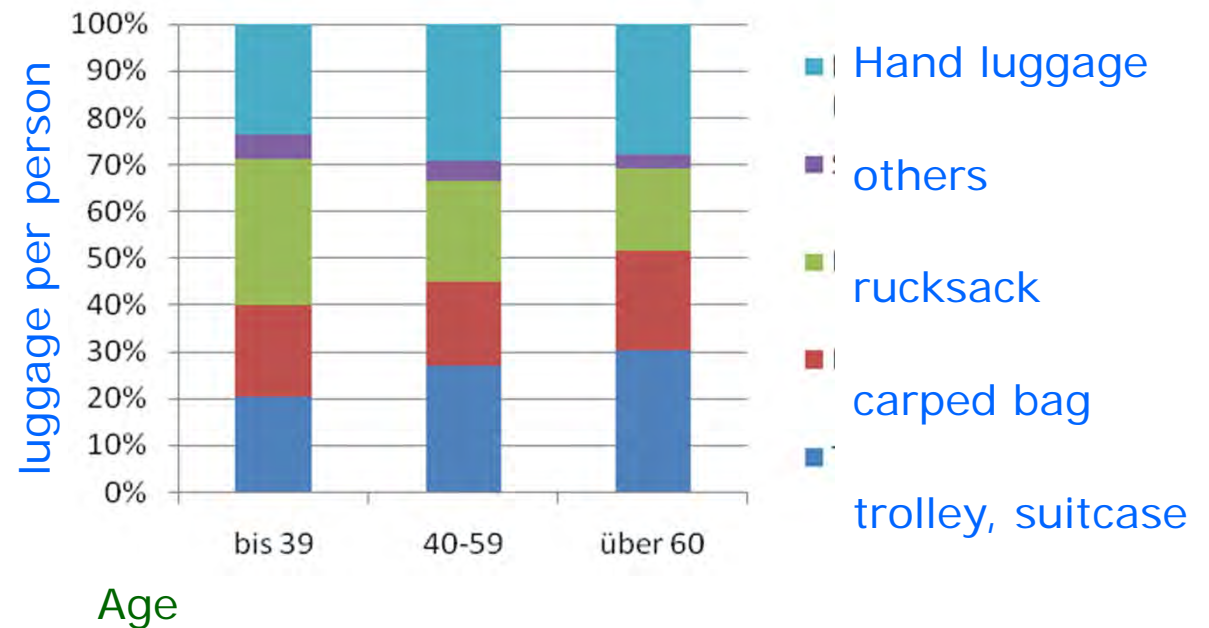




### Passengers with luggage



Long distance - every second passenger travels with oversize luggage





## Difficulties for 30-50% of all travellers with luggage



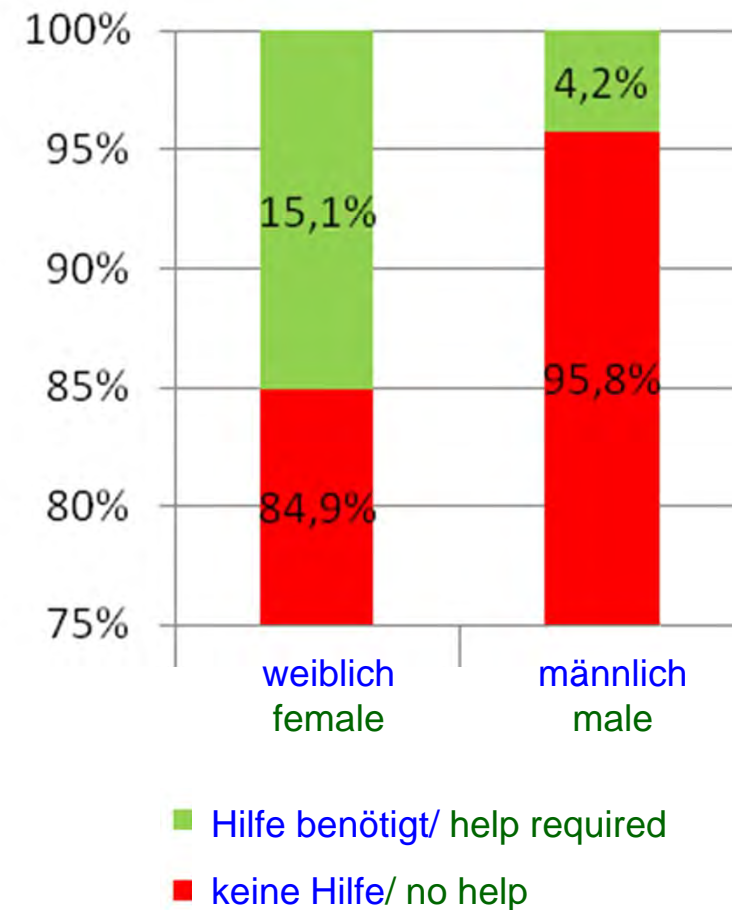
Source: Boarding Assistance System Evaluation

Matrix, Petutschnig, Ruger, Tauschitz, July 2010

### Boarding with luggage

Approx. 15% of female and

Approx. 4% of male passengers  
need assistance



Source: Boarding Assistance System Evaluation Matrix, Petutschnig, Ruger, Tauschitz 2010

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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### The U.K. Railway System & Accessibility Strategies – A Case Study

(courtesy DfT London)

- Facts
- History
- Progress
- Challenges





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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### FACTS

- 11 million disabled people in UK
- Disabled people have annual purchasing power of €93 billion
- By 2020, half the UK population will be 50 or older
- Obese older adults are more likely to develop conditions that limit daily living

### History

- Disability Discrimination Act 1995
- Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations 1998
- Disability Discrimination Act 2005



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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### Progress so far: Vehicles

- All older vehicles feature improved accessibility
- 2020 End Date – use of “targeted compliance” on older vehicles to focus effort on significant improvements
- Technical Specification for Interoperability – Persons with Reduced Mobility 2008 “TSI-PRM”
- Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations 2010
- 5604 vehicles built to access standards -> 45% of heavy rail fleet



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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### Progress so far – Stations

- In 2005, just 57% of journeys started or ended at a step-free station
- “Access for All” – 10 year, €425m programme
- Step-free access at 148 stations
- Smaller schemes at 1300 other stations
- Intention to achieve 81% by 2015





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Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

## Challenges United Kingdom Railway System

- Gaps / Steps - Staff intensive
- Old platforms used for mixed traffic
- Manual boarding ramps used at all heavy rail stations - Prevents independent access



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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### Challenges

- “Harrington Hump” – prefabricated hump to raise low platforms at low use stations
- Does not give level access - Does not deal with horizontal gap
- Being fitted elsewhere

-> Anticipation  
in the Planning-  
Process of  
new  
infrastructure





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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### Staff assistance

- 24 hours notice requested
- Discourages infrequent travellers
- GB reluctant to move to automated devices
- 50% failure rate
- Funding for improved IT system





### The ideal situation for enabling effectively working railway environment interfaces

- gap bridging systems for level-boarding
- Automatic bridge plates as used in
  - > *closed interoperable\* systems =*  
Same vehicle type (rolling stock\*)  
Same station-platform height throughout the infrastructure\*
- > improved passenger flow
- > Avoid Missing Links
- > increase number of irregular travellers



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Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

**The ideal Situation enabling effectively working Railway  
Environment Interfaces – speed up increase passenger turnover**





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Best practice example ->

- E.g. Suisse Federal Railways  
Program "Mobihelfer"  
1 hour notice time only

## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

☐ Kunde über kurze Umsteigezeit informiert ↔

Unterbrechungsgrund: Kunde war nicht anwesend

**Reisende mit Behinderung**

Anzahl Reisende: 1

**Hilfsmittel**

Anzahl	Hilfsmittel	Bemerkungen
1	Rollstuhl mit Motor	
	Rollstuhl ohne Motor	
	Swiss-Trak	
	Rollator	

**Handicap**

Anzahl
--------

UIC The worldwide organization of cooperation for railway companies

Sprache: DE - EN - FR - ES - IT - PT - RU - UA - ZH - JA - KO - AR - HI - VI - TH - ID - MS - TA - TE - GU - KN - ML - SI - TM - CY - EL - BG - RO - HU - PL - SK - CZ - SL - HR - SR - ME - BA - RS - MK - AL - GR - TR - BG - RO - HU - PL - SK - CZ - SL - HR - SR - ME - BA - RS - MK - AL - GR - TR

Anfrage erstellen Erhaltene Anfragen Beantwortet Zu beantwortende Anfragen Erhaltene Antworten Suche Information

↑ ↓	↑ ↓	↑ ↓	↑ ↓
DB	23/12/2011	21:12	BASEL SBB (ref 5006341)
DB	26/12/2011	07:47	BASEL SBB (ref 5006342)
DB	15/12/2011	08:34	ZUERICH HB (ref 5006364)
DB	28/12/2011	20:42	ZUERICH HB (ref 5006365)
DB	14/12/2011	15:31	SPIEZ (ref 5006372)
DB	04/01/2012	11:22	SPIEZ (ref 5006373)
DB	04/01/2012	12:59	BASEL SBB
DB	04/01/2012	13:12	BASEL SBB
SNCF	22/10/2011	17:14	GENEVE (ref 5006390)
SNCF	29/10/2011	14:41	GENEVE





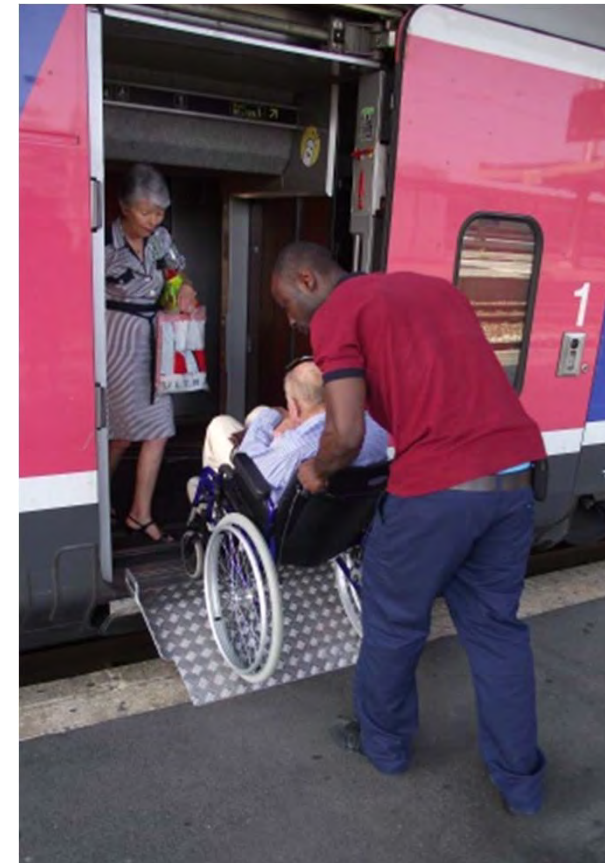
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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

Best Practice  
Examples for  
Specialised Services

SNCF Accès+ ,  
RENFE Atendo,  
Barrierfreies Reisen  
Austrian Federal  
Railway ÖBB



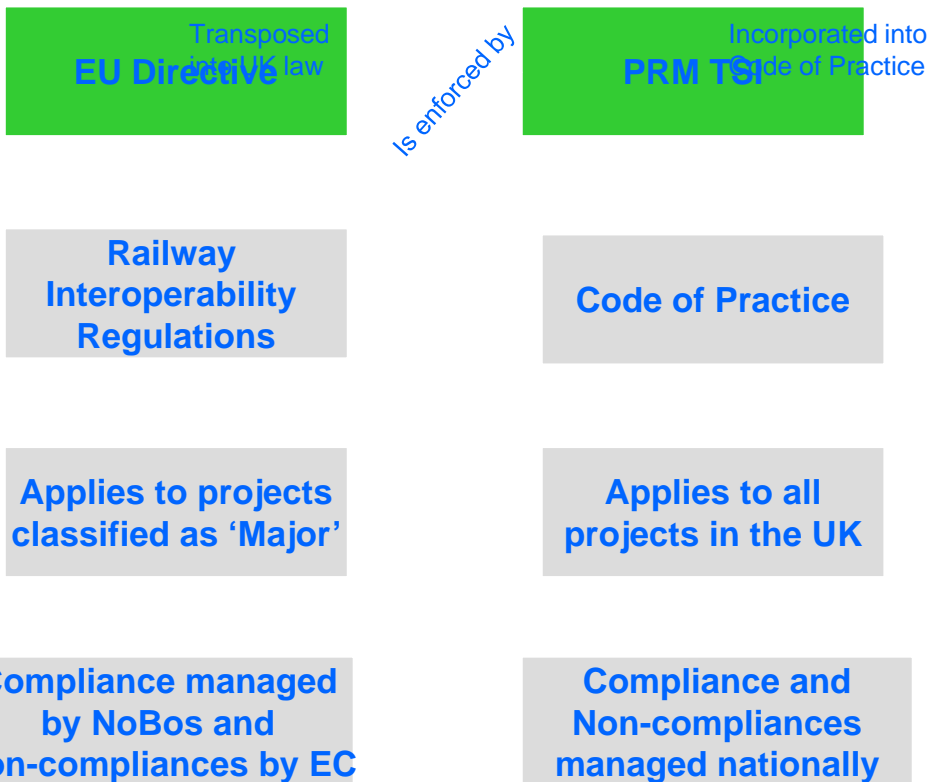
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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### PRM TSI and National Rules

UK Example



Member states are able to classify projects in such a manner so as to locally manage the time and cost impact or requirements...

### Mechanism Project for Classification:

#### Directive 2008/57/EC [..]

enforces that a project that is Major must be assessed against the requirements of the PRM TSI by a Notified Body

Neither the UK or the Netherlands have yet used a Notified Body to assess the compliance of an infrastructure asset against the requirements of the PRM TSI.

**But** "Large Scale" projects have been classified as non-Major suggesting the need for certification of compliance by a NoBo is not necessary

A number of reasons [..]

managing the requirements at a local level  
To limit the cost and process impact associated with involving a NoBo  
To remove the need to apply to the EC for a deviation against requirements

## The impact of the PRM TSI within the UK and Netherlands is limited due to existing national legislation and Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### Netherlands

- No new Rolling Stock has been introduced since the PRM TSI has been in force
- Existing Rolling Stock is being upgraded in-line with mid-life refurbishment programmes. However the level of compliance is restricted by structural design, hence targeted application of requirements is being

- Parliamentary Act passed which is designed to make railways accessible by 2030
- PRM TSI used to provide design requirements

### UK

- Only two new fleets have been introduced since the PRM TSI has been in force
- RVAR Regulations have been in existence since 2008, ensuring Rolling Stock design already has accessible elements
- Existing rolling stock is being upgraded using 'targeted compliance', which focus on a
- Access for All and Stations for All regulations are used to drive accessibility
- Both member states are using the requirements of the PRM TSI to drive the infrastructure projects

### Rolling Stock

- New Rolling Stock
  - Manufacturers are standardising the incorporation of the PRM TSI and other requirements in their new modular designs
  - Few new projects introduced, hence minimal impact
- Existing Rolling Stock

Always subject to be restricted by the

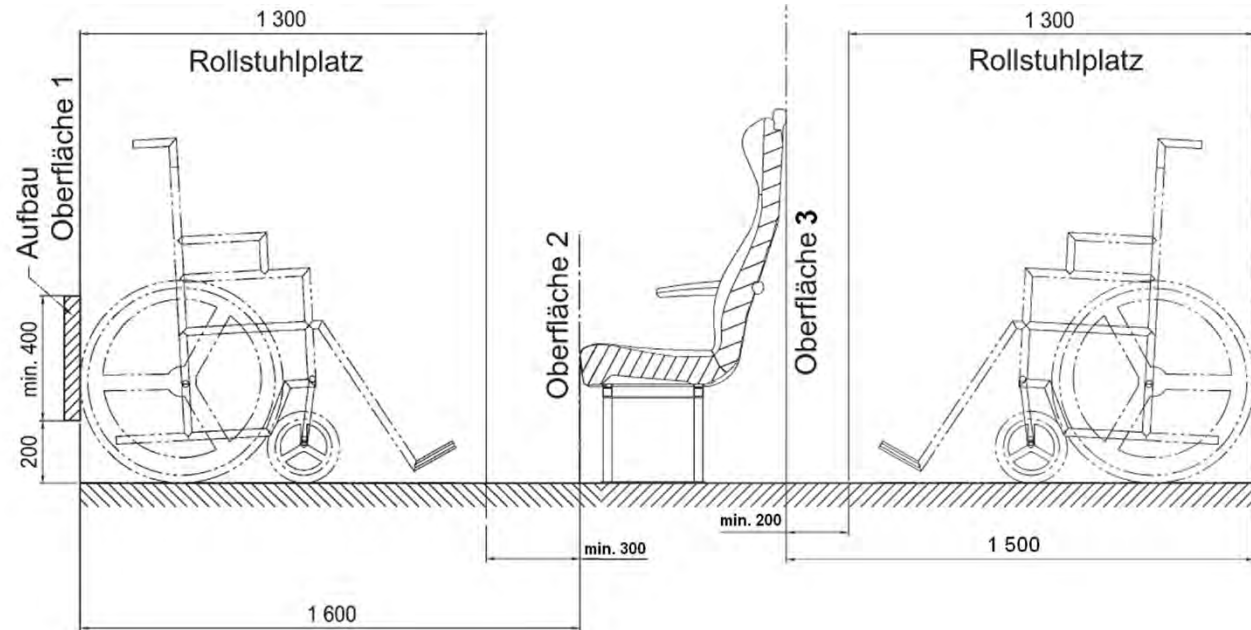
### Infrastructure

- Member states have strong policy and standards
  - UK has RVAR which has long promoted accessibility
  - UK and Netherlands both have national accessibility policy to develop their network
- Use of 'Major' classification is limiting the effect of the legislation [..]



### TSI – PRM - Annex M

- Basis= ISO 7193:1985.
- Dimensions for wheelchair intended for indoor use.
- Mass limit of 200kg for combined mass of wheelchair and occupant and luggage.
- > prime example for non-harmonised Standards



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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

### Role of a wheelchair in transport

#### Interoperability of Norms?

- EN 12183 - Manual wheelchairs
- EN12184 – Power Wheelchairs
- Class A – Indoor, Class B - Indoor with outdoor capabilities Class C – Outdoor, with climbing ability Classified by operating environment – not by mass – Wheelchair selection/prescription according to user requirements vs. ->
- TSI – PRM. Annex M gives engineering limits for a transportable wheelchair & restricts access to Infrastructure & Stock for powered wheelchair users. proposed by European Disability CEN / TC256 WG 44 (Austria)

Picture: Pinzgauer Lokalbahn (Salzburger Landesbahn SLB), Austria



### Wheelchairs – as seats in transport

- Primary function –  
to compensate for mobility impairment
- Transport Enables
  - Access to leisure, work & other facilities
- =Social Inclusion
  - Access to education
  - Design Priorities?
  - Toileting, - Comfort
  - Posture Management
  - Pressure Management
  - Tissue integrity





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## Accessibility for Public Transport Systems

Thank You for your attention !

*WILL & SKILL*

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*Member*

*World Conference on Transport Research Studies – SIG Public Transport  
CEN /TC 256 Working Group [TSI PRM – Accessible Rail Vehicles]*

*Assoc. Member*

*European Disability Form, Brussels  
European Expert – European Certified Experts Associations*