ACTIVITIES OF UNECE BODIES AND PROJECTS
OF INTEREST TO THE WORKING PARTY

Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24)

Note by the secretariat
UNECE Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24)

Serviced by

Sustainable Transport Section
Transport Division
UNECE
What is WP.24?

- **Status**
  - Permanent body under the auspices of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee (ITC) since 1954
  - Only pan-European inter-governmental forum
  - Two regular annual meetings (March/October)

- **Functions**
  - Exchange of technical, legal and policy information, research and best practices
  - Technical and legal coordination
  - Administration of legal instruments
  - [Technical cooperation - peer reviews]
What is WP.24?

Mandate

- Support non-discriminatory, sustainable, safe and secure transport policies of UNECE member countries
- Promote intermodal and combined transport at the pan-European level (56 UNECE countries)
- Ensure maximum utilization of transport infrastructure networks, equipment and terminals
- Foster cooperation between public (Governments) and private (industry) sectors
What is intermodal transport?

**Terminology** (UNECE, EC, ECMT)

**Multimodal transport** (legal)
Carriage of goods by two or more modes of transport.

**Intermodal transport** (functional)
Movement of goods in one and the same loading unit using two or more modes without handling the goods.

**Combined transport** (political)
Intermodal transport of which major part of European journey being rail, IWT or short-sea whereby initial/final haulages by road are as short as possible.
Intermodal technologies

- **Unaccompanied transport** (containers, swap-bodies, semi-trailers)

- **Accompanied transport** (Rolling Highway–RoLa)
Development of intermodal transport

Number of consignments (UIRR companies)
Development of intermodal transport

Type of technology (UIRR companies)

- **Unaccompanied transport:** 86%
  - Swap-bodies and containers: 79%
  - Semi-trailers 7%
- **Accompanied transport (RoLa)** 14% (80% in Austria)
Intermodal transport flows in Europe

Main traffic in North-South direction

1 Modane 2 Gotthard/Lötschberg 3 Brenner (in consignments)
Problems: Rail transport capacity

Major bottlenecks in 2015 (UIC DIOMIS study)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N° of trains per day and direction on a double tracked electrified line</th>
<th>Rate of employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 173</td>
<td>&gt; 100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>145 - 173</td>
<td>85 – 100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>121 – 144</td>
<td>70 – 84 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 120</td>
<td>&lt; 70 %</td>
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</table>
Problems: Rail transport quality

Punctuality of intermodal transport trains
(UIRR)

On time
> 3h
> 24h

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>On time</th>
<th>&gt; 3h</th>
<th>&gt; 24h</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Problems: Border crossing procedures

Administrative, technical and legal issues
(CREAM project)
Contributions by UNECE and WP.24

Fields of action

- Intermodal transport infrastructure
- Minimum intermodal service standards
- Intermodal transport policies
- Intermodal transport equipment
- Logistics (new)
Intermodal transport infrastructure

- AGTC Agreement and IWT Protocol
Intermodal transport service standards

Minimum AGTC infrastructure and service standards (also PPP models and benchmarks)
**Intermodal transport policies**

**Support for Euro-Asian transport links**

- Kiev Plan of Action adopted by ECMT Transport Ministers (Moscow, 2006)
- Establishment of an Intermodal Transport Observatory in Ukraine (Liski)
- Support for common CIM/SMGS consignment note (CIT and OSJD) and for a single railway regime from Atlantic to Pacific (COTIF-SMGS)
- Civil liability regime for intermodal/multimodal transport
Intermodal transport equipment

- Container dimensions (ISO Series 2 49ft, 45ft containers)

- Mega-trucks and intermodality

EU

- 7.82 m
- 7.82 m
- 13.6 m
- 13.6 m

Sweden and Finland

- 13.6 m
- 7.82 m
- 13.6 m
- 13.6 m
Role of Governments in “freight transport logistics”

- **Primarily a business activity**
  - Supply chain management
  - Organization of freight transport
  - Planning and operation of intermodal transport
  - Construction and operation of terminals (distribution)

- **Governments play a complementary role**
  - Transport policies
    (level playing field among actors and modes, safety, land use, sustainability, security, etc.)
  - Transport infrastructure
    (networks, terminals, etc.)
  - Research, education and awareness
    (ITS, professional training, public perception, etc.)
Role of Governments in “freight transport logistics”

Fields of action

- Transport Policies and Infrastructure
- Research Educations Awareness
- Supply chain management Intermodal transport

Governments
Public sector

- Initiatives
- Incentives
- Projects

Industry
Private sector

Transport Policies and Infrastructure
Research Educations Awareness
Supply chain management Intermodal transport

Fields of action

Source: Adapted from German Masterplan
Logistics and intermodal transport

New activities of WP.24

Preparation of a concept paper on
- concept of logistics and supply chains
- impact on freight and intermodal transport
- role and areas of Governmental action
- examples of Governmental initiatives
- proposals for future WP.24 activities

First draft has been completed:
ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2008/4 (E,F,R)
Planned work of WP.24 in 2009

Next session of WP.24: 19-20 March 2009
Provisional agenda available by end of December 2008

- Role and impact of Governments in logistics and supply chain management (national experiences)
- Civil liability issue (follow up to UNCITRAL work)
- Best practices on policy measures to promote intermodal transport (UNECE questionnaire)
- Extension of AGTC Agreement to Caucasus
- New developments in road/rail intermodal transport (exchange of information)