

Project Newsletter #11

Rail4Regions is an Interreg Central Europe project that is aiming at improving the access to the European rail freight networks. The project is now in its final year.

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Save the Date: Final conference in Erfurt

The final event of the Rail4Regions project will take place on January 14th, 2026, at the University of Applied Sciences Erfurt, Germany. The event will feature presentations of the project's resulting solutions as well as their uptake in the different partner territories. A field trip is planned for the following day. More information will be announced soon.



RCH has launched its 3rd interoperable locomotive driver training course

Rail freight transport between regions is slowed down by several factors, including the fact that each country applies its own railway regulations,

In September this year, RCH launched its third interoperable training course, being in this way at the forefront among railway

uses only its own national language, and the electric current of the infrastructure also varies. Several attempts for harmonization of regulations within the European Union have failed.

Due to the differences, locomotives and locomotive drivers have to be changed at European border railway stations, or – as Rail Cargo Hungaria (RCH) does – international transport can be made faster and more predictable by using interoperable locomotives and locomotive drivers.

companies, as very few across Europe have the knowledge required for cross-border train transport.

RCH already operates all of its trains transporting single wagonload consignments on the Budapest-Vienna route without changing locomotives or locomotive drivers. The results so far speak for themselves: border crossing times have been reduced to a few minutes. Transport tasks can be performed in a more predictable manner, with shorter travel times and greater efficiency.

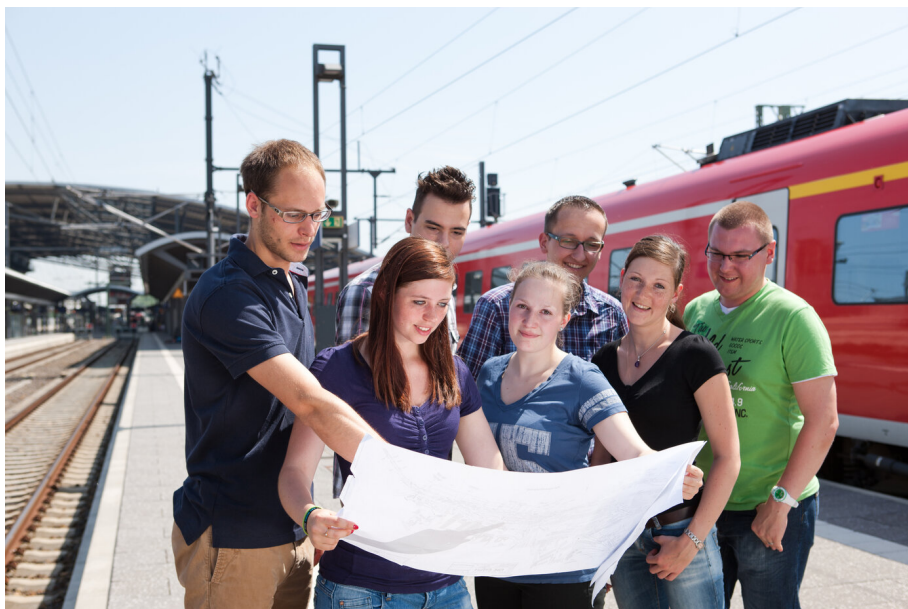
Meet our partners: FH Erfurt (DE)



The University of Applied Sciences Erfurt (FH Erfurt), established in 1991, offers a diverse range of programs in technical, design, and social fields. The university emphasizes practice-oriented teaching and applied research, aiming to address current and future challenges through innovative approaches. In addition to student education, the university is involved in regional collaborations and is committed to sustainable development.

In the Rail4Regions project, the staff of Institute of Traffic and Transport takes on the upcoming tasks. This institute is an integral part of the university, specializing in the research and development of sustainable traffic systems and spatial structures. The institute aims to find solutions for traffic development that relieve busy areas and improve quality of life. Its work involves the development of integrated concepts, combining technological innovations with methodological approaches from social and spatial sciences. In doing so, it collaborates with municipal partners and is integrated into international scientific networks.

In the Rail4Regions project, FH Erfurt contributes with its scientific expertise and develops methodologies for the collection of case studies and the calculation of CO2 saving potentials through the implemented actions. It also hosts the final event.



Rail4Regions at Expo Ferroviaria 2025

On 1 October, Fulvio Quattrocchio and Valerio Cipolli, representing the Province of Novara, visited the Expo Ferroviaria trade fair in Milan. The purpose of the visit was to raise awareness of Rail4Regions and introduce logistics operators and railway line managers attending the fair to the solutions proposed by the partners to promote the spread of rail freight transport.



Following the meetings held during the day, an agreement was reached with the Italian Railway Engineers Association to organise an event for the presentation of the Rail4Regions results. This conference, which will take place next 27 November in Turin and online, will provide an opportunity for a wide-ranging discussion with the most important national stakeholders on the potential and challenges of rail freight transport.



Rail4Regions

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