

## Press Information

### ÖBB Rail Cargo Group reduces traffic congestion on the Brenner Pass with a new TransFER between Northern Italy and Southern Germany

- The new TransFER Verona–Regensburg started running on 6 June with three round trips per week
- With this new service, RCG further expands its services over the Brenner route and significantly reduces congestion caused by lorry transit in Tyrol
- Expansion to six round trips expected by the end of 2021
- Highly effective intermodal network guarantees the efficient transport of goods across the entire Eurasian continent

(Vienna, 17.06.2021) - ÖBB Rail Cargo Group (RCG) expands its network and, thanks to a new TransFER connection, launches an intermodal non-stop connection from 6 June 2021 between the terminal in Sommacampagna-Sona near Verona and the trailer port in Regensburg operated by Bayernhafen. With the new TransFER connection, RCG introduces an efficient and environmentally friendly transport solution between Northern Italy and Southern Germany for the flow of continental goods. The connection is designed as an attractive “overnight transfer” and will be running three round trips per week. By the end of 2021, these are to be extended by three more and thus increased to a total of six round trips.

#### **Reducing transit congestion on the Brenner axis**

The new TransFER connection enables a greater transfer of freight from road to rail along the Brenner axis. This environmentally friendly and high-frequency transport solution will further reduce traffic in Austria, a country heavily affected by transit, by 10,000 lorry transits per year, rising to a reduction by 20,000 per year with the increase of round trips in 2022. The new intermodal train connection thus significantly contributes to reducing traffic in a region plagued by transit, as well as reducing noise exposure for the population of the region. As a result, RCG decisively contributes to climate protection and positively counteracts the increasing numbers of transit vehicles on the Brenner route. This means that goods such as wood, scrap metal and grain, which are currently affected by the sectoral driving ban, can be transported by rail along the Brenner route in an environmentally friendly way.

#### **From Northern Italy to Southern Germany**

Due to its easily accessible location, Verona plays an important role in the Veneto region in Northern Italy. Veneto is the third strongest economic region in Italy, with an industrial focus on mechanical engineering and electronics, metal construction, fashion and textiles, plastics, the automotive industry, furniture and food production.

Thanks to the strong partnership with Bayernhafen GmbH & Co. KG, RCG offers a direct connection to their site in Regensburg. The Bayernhafen Regensburg is a hub for freight transport in the entire eastern Bavarian region and shifts long-distance freight transport from road to the two more environmentally friendly modes of transport, inland waterways and rail. Over the past few years, the Regensburg region has become one of the fastest growing



economic regions in Bavaria. Leading international high-tech companies from, for example, the automotive and semiconductor industries or plant construction have settled in the region and are beginning to expand.

The connection started running on 6 June with the clients Nothegger Transport Logistik GmbH, based in St. Ulrich, and Reicheneder Transport GmbH from Aiterhofen. ÖBB Rail Cargo Group also offers sustainable and efficient transport between the two destinations to other customers.

### **TransNET – the network**

Available in ten languages with an intuitive user interface, TransNET, the ÖBB Rail Cargo Group's new digital map, sets new standards in the European freight transport market. Users have three options to find their desired connection: they can select "Go" and "Thanks" to choose the starting point and destination for their goods, they can find their connection using the well-arranged list view, or simply click on a location on the map. This opens up a world of possibilities, with TransFER connections and combinations that they can link up to best meet their needs. After selecting the relevant route, it is displayed on the map and shows which services are offered at the selected locations.

### **TransFER – the connection**

The ÖBB Rail Cargo Group transports goods across the whole Eurasian continent with over 50 network connections and many customisable TransFER services. The transport units vary from entire wagonloads and intermodal transport through to complete customisable solutions. Additional freight services such as transshipment, warehouse logistics and customs services can be booked according to the place of departure and the destination. The RCG takes care of all the details – from the first to the last mile.

### **SmartLINK – the access**

The ÖBB RCG's link to the digital RCG, and thus its entire range of services, can be found at [smartlink.railcargo.com](https://smartlink.railcargo.com). SmartLINK not only makes rail easily accessible, it also gives a clear overview of all the steps that are needed to put freight transport on the rails. SmartLINK is the gateway into the digital world of rail logistics. It guides users through four areas: customers select pre-scheduled or customisable TransFER connections, they find out about the available equipment, services and add-ons relevant to them. The customer journey ends with them getting in touch with customer service representatives who create a unique offer with the customer.

### **Rail Cargo Group: the freight transport division of the ÖBB**

The Rail Cargo Group is one of the leading rail logistics companies in Europe. We are the ones shaping the industry – 365 days a year – 24 hours a day. Across Europe and beyond into Asia. We connect people, businesses and markets – from the first to the last mile. It is thanks to our 9,393 members of staff from 34 nations located in 18 different countries that 460,000 trains a year, which means 1,260 a day, reach their destinations safe and sound. With our efficient end-to-end logistics services, we transport 95 million net tonnes of freight each year. We have a modal share of 28.2 % of the total freight market in Austria, which makes us top of the league in Europe. Every year, we save the climate from around 1.1 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Austria. Operational management of the Rail Cargo Group lies with Rail Cargo Austria AG.



### **ÖBB: Today. Tomorrow. Together.**

As a comprehensive mobility and logistics service provider, the ÖBB Group's eco-friendly transport services brought 287 million passengers and over 95 million tonnes of freight safely to their destinations in 2020. The electricity that powers the company's trains and railway stations comes from 100 percent renewable energy sources. With a punctuality rating of around 97 percent in passenger transport, the ÖBB ranks as one of the most punctual rail companies in Europe. With annual investments in rail infrastructure of over three billion Euro, the ÖBB is building the railways of tomorrow. Across the Group, almost 42,000 members of bus and rail staff and around 2,000 apprentices make sure around 1.3 million travellers and 1,300 freight trains reach their destinations safely. The ÖBB is the backbone of the public transport system. As the largest eco-friendly business in Austria, the ÖBB brings people and freight wherever they need to go, safely and sustainably. The company's strategic management lies with ÖBB-Holding AG.

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