on track to
A GREENER
TRANSPORT
FUTURE
unife
THE EUROPEAN RAIL INDUSTRY

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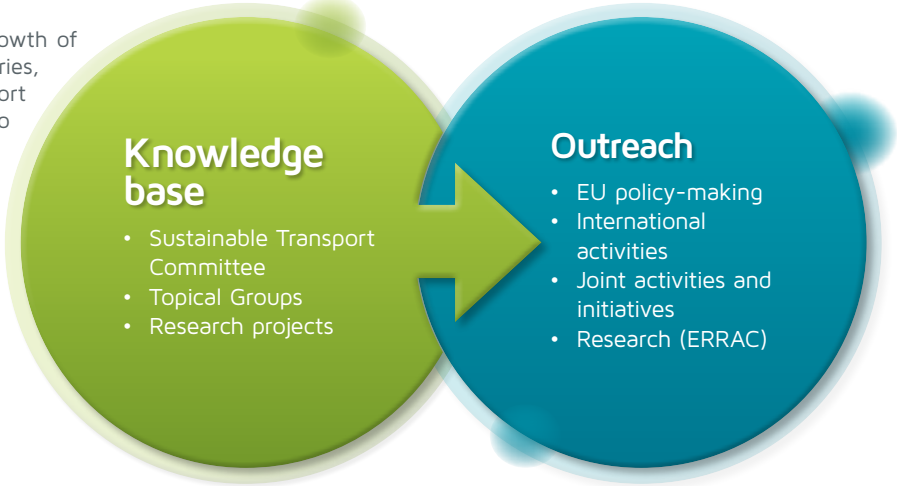
UNIFE's commitment to sustainable mobility

Vision

Sustainability, particularly in its environmental dimension, has always been considered a key value of the European rail industry. **Rail technologies are already 3 to 4 times cleaner than road or air transport in terms of CO2 emissions**[1], but efforts need to be intensified to tackle climate change in the upcoming decades.

UNIFE's strategy is to enable the sustainable growth of mobility both in developed and in developing countries, with rail as the backbone of a intermodal transport system in a context where urbanization must go hand in hand with sustainable development goals.

UNIFE has put into place an organisational system to proactively respond to rising environmental concerns, adapt to EU legislation and contribute to the adaptation or the creation of new standards.



1 Rail Route 2050: the sustainable backbone of the Single European Transport Area, ERRAC

A solid knowledge-base

Since 1999, the **UNIFE Sustainable Transport Committee (STC)** has been the key strategic driver for the main sustainability and environmental activities undertaken by UNIFE, in collaboration with the Public Affairs unit.

Considering the increased complexity of environmental and sustainability issues, the competencies of the UNIFE Sustainable Transport Committee have grown over time but are mostly dedicated to providing even more eco-efficient products and service solutions. The Sustainable Transport Committee drafts and assures coherent and effective common positions of the rail industry in the environmental field. It is supported by several Topical Groups, which provide the technical content on the main dossiers and regularly reports to the STC.

Sustainable Transport Committee

- Life Cycle Assessment Tropical Group
- Chemical Risk Tropical Group
- Energy Efficiency Tropical Group

The Sustainable Transport Committee and its Topical Groups can rely and build on a long-established rail sector cooperation in EU-funded collaborative research projects. Research will be the cornerstone of environmental improvements and breakthroughs in the system as a whole are necessary for rail to retain its position as the most environmentally friendly transport mode.

SHIFT²RAIL

The European rail sector has joined forces in SHIFT²RAIL, the first European public-private partnership initiative to seek focused research and innovation and market-driven solutions by accelerating the integration of new and advanced technologies into innovative rail product solutions. Following endorsement from the Council in June 2014, SHIFT²RAIL will contribute to meeting the changing EU sustainable transport needs, thereby leading to significant increase in environmental performance and resilience to climate change.

In particular, SHIFT²RAIL addresses the following challenges:

- Energy efficiency technologies for the rail system;
- Infrastructure resilience to climate change and other environmental impacts;
- Noise and vibration.

More information on: www.shift2rail.org