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Nr 316 - 25 October 2012

e-News

Rail Security

The 8th UIC World Congress on Railway Security focusing on “Human Factors and Security” and jointly organised by UIC and Slovakian Railways, opens in Bratislava

The 8th UIC World Congress on Railway Security is being held in Bratislava, Slovak Republic, from 25 – 26 October 2012. It is jointly organised between the International Union of Railways (UIC) and Slovakian Railways ZSSK, ZSSK Cargo and ZSR. The congress is mainly taking stock of human factors issues in the field of railway security. More than 120 delegates from 26 countries (Africa, America, Asia and Europe) are attending the event. They represent the major players involved in rail and transport security issues: railway security managers, representatives of international organisations, the rail supply industry, and universities.

The congress is focusing on four



From left to right: Mr Pavol Gábor, Chief Executive Officer of ZSSK Mr Andrej Holak, State Secretary, Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic, Mr Lubomir Hradisky (ZSSK, Slovakia), Mr Robert Missen, Head of Unit, Land Transport Security, European Commission, Mr Jerzy Wisniewski, Director of the UIC Fundamental Values Department

specific themes presented by 25 speakers:

- administrative, legal and operational partnerships,
- human behaviour,
- training of railway staff,
- human factors in technologies and research projects.

The congress was officially opened this morning by Mr Lubomir Hradisky (ZSSK, Slovakia), the new Chairman of the UIC Security Platform, who has succeeded Moha Khaddour from Moroccan Railways (ONCF).

The inaugural session was followed by a video message delivered by UIC Director-General Mr Jean-Pierre Loubinoux, who underlined that it was important not to continue tolerating criminal acts and misconduct and relying on law enforcement authorities to solve these problems or avoid them happening again. In a second point, he underlined that it seemed vital to place people at the heart of security, and use technology and regulations to support railways business, to help staff in charge of security-related duties.

Then, Mr Andrej Holak, State Secretary, Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic, pointed out that railway companies have a huge potential for development in the future. This implies putting companies at the heart of public policies in order to protect and develop them. Mr Pavol Gábor, Chief Executive Officer of ZSSK, underlined that it was an honour to host the congress in the Slovak Republic and for Slovakian Railways to co-organise the event. He



greeted the appointment of Mr Lubomir Hradisky as Chairman of the UIC Security Platform.

Mr Jerzy Wisniewski, Director of the UIC Fundamental Values Department, explained that the research linked to security is a part of the development for future railway activities. Since the creation of the platform, 25 development projects have been developed with the help of European Union funds. This European effort should be placed in a more global perspective.

Mr Robert Missen, Head of Unit, Land Transport Security, European Commission, concluded the session by highlighting the need to develop an EU land transport security policy after all the work already undertaken for air and sea modes. He reminded the audience that Mr Siim Kallas, Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Transport, decided to involve the Commission to avoid any potential future risks. Then Mr Missen presented the staff working document published by the European Commission on 31 May 2012. Among the bullet points in this document, priorities have to be given to high speed rail, intermodal structures, staff training, resilience of railways systems, research and security of the supply chain. He confirmed that UIC will be invited to the stakeholders' group on Land Transport Security, which should meet for the first time in early 2013.

The event was also the occasion for Mr Pradeep Kumar Mehta (Director-General of the Indian Railway Protection Force) to take up his new role as Vice-Chairman of the UIC Security Platform.

On the occasion of this 8th UIC World Security Congress, the UIC Security Division released a new security brochure presenting its organisation, achievements and projects. The brochure is available both in French and English, on request from security@uic.org or can be downloaded from <http://uic.org/spip.php?article2113>

An exhibition is being held during the seminar and the UIC stand is a success.

The congress will conclude tomorrow with the adoption of a final general statement by the congress participants.



Sustainable Development

The UIC Sustainability Conference 2012, organised by FS and UIC, is being held in Venice

The UIC Sustainability Conference 2012, organised by FS and UIC, is being held in Venice from 25 – 27 October 2012. On the first day the conference featured high-level speakers from the United Nations, the EU Commission, Italian Government and the European Parliament, along with senior leaders from the railway sector and an audience of over 200 delegates to discuss a sustainable future for the railway sector; among them Mr Mauro Moretti, CEO of Italian Railways and Vice-President of UIC, Mr Vladimir Yakunin, President of Russian Railways (RZD), Mr Marc Juhel from the World Bank, Mr Ralph Wahnschafft from the UN.

Jean-Pierre Loubinoux, UIC Director-General, opened the conference saying that “Transport is the fastest growing sector in terms of emissions and rail is one of the main actors in achieving a solution.” He reminded the audience of UIC’s mission statement: “To promote rail transport at world level and meet the challenges of mobility and sustainable development, using a systematic complementary approach: strategy, improvement and communication.” Then Mr Loubinoux announced that UIC has been invited to join a working group to prepare the UN Secretary General’s High Level Panel on Sustainable Transport.

Mr Loubinoux’s opening speech was



From left to right: Mr Jean-Pierre Loubinoux, UIC Director-General, Mr Vladimir Yakunin, President of Russian Railways (RZD) and Mr Mauro Moretti, CEO of Italian Railways and Vice-Chairman of UIC



Taking the floor: Mr Mauro Moretti, CEO of Italian Railways and Vice-Chairman of UIC, opening the conference today in Venice

followed by Mr Moretti who declared: “to achieve the environment goals, we need strong government commitment between countries; we should enhance economy and competition by eliminating political barriers.” He emphasised the “important role of rail in cities and not only as a long distance transport mode.” Finally, according to the Italian motto he said “we should tackle the most polluted modes first.”

Mr Yakunin praised UIC’s role in promoting rail as a sustainable way to develop economies and meet the challenges of society, stressed the importance of the Declaration for Sustainability signed by 50 prominent railways and underlined RZD’s ambitions to modernise and improve its services, forming a link between markets and continents.

The conference’s main topics are addressing: railway development in the framework of the three pillars of sustainability: economic, social, environmental; the role of legislative framework in the development of sustainable railway transportation; rail and sustainable cities.

On the second day, along with parallel sessions of the UIC Sustainability Networks, the RIVAS project will be holding its mid-term conference. Funded within the 7th Framework Programme (FP7) of the European Commission, this project aims at reducing the environmental impact of ground-borne vibrations while safeguarding the commercial competitiveness of the railway sector. The conference will take stock of the achieved research results and will attempt to define the way ahead.

The third edition of the **UIC Sustainability Awards** will also be held the same day. The awards will be given out in four categories: Sustainable Mobility, Energy and CO2, Sustainable Land Use and the Jury’s Special Prize.

More information in the next UIC eNews.



Mr Jean-Pierre Loubinoux, UIC Director-General, giving a speech



Mr Vladimir Yakunin, President of Russian Railways (RZD), taking the floor



To learn more visit <http://www.uic-environment.org/> and <http://www.rivas-project.eu/>

Next meetings scheduled

- 19-23 November 2012: Training, Chengdu Railway university (Chengdu, China)
- 20 November 2012: PROTECTRAIL Project Review (Paris)
- 21-23 November 2012: 47th CENELEC TC9X meeting (Prag)
- 22-23 November 2012: Optimising Rail Track Investment and Maintenance Seminar (Seoul, Korea)
- 22 November 2012: RCG plenary meeting (CER HQ - Brussels)
- 27 November 2012: 4th RSF Sector Energy Sector Steering Committee Meeting (Paris)
- 29 November 2012: RSF Steering Board (UIC, Paris)
- 3-4 December 2012: Expertise Development Platform (Eskisehir, Turkey)
- 4-5 December 2012: Statistics Steering Committee (UIC HQ)
- 5 December 2012: 3rd meeting of the working group "Metal Theft" (Paris, UIC HQ)
- 6 December 2012: Statistics Plenary meeting (UIC HQ)
- 7 December 2012: 3rd meeting of the working group « Security : strategy and Regulation » (Brussels)
- 11 December 2012: EMC & 15th European Regional Assembly (UIC Paris)
- 11 December 2012: Executive Board (UIC Paris)
- 12 December 2012: 81st General Assembly
- 12 December 2012: RESTRAIL Info day (Paris, UIC HQ)
- 15-17 January 2013: UIC GLOBAL SIGNALLING & TELECOM CONFERENCE (Delhi, INDIA)
- 30-31 January 2013: PoSE meeting (Paris, UIC HQ)
- 6 February 2013: Safety Platform Core Group (UIC HQ PARIS)
- 6 March 2013: NHM-Sitzung (Paris - UIC Gebäude)

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