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FRET SNCF JOINS THE XRAIL ALLIANCE

With the entry of Fret SNCF, the leading rail freight operator in France, Xrail wins another important Alliance partner to develop a competitive and sustainable European Wagonload network. The Xrail Alliance now comprises of seven partners, which operate in total thirteen Wagonload networks.

“By joining the Xrail Alliance, Fret SNCF is sending a clear signal of its ambition to develop a European Wagonload service with all advantages needed to make it a sustainable alternative to road transport”, says Sylvie Charles, General Manager of Rail Freight and Multimodal Transport Division at SNCF Logistics. With an annual transport volume of about 20 bn tkm, Fret SNCF is the leading rail freight operator in France. The Alliance therefore further expands its geographical coverage significantly.

Seamless capacity booking – throughout Europe

In the future, the seamless connection between all partners will enable to provide clients with a capacity-checked transport plan, a reliable estimated day and time of arrival (ETA) and status messages for all booked wagons.

As of today, international transports between the Alliance members CFL Cargo, Lineas, Rail Cargo Group and SBB Cargo are already booked via the Xrail Capacity Booking (XCB) Broker. In a next step, DB Cargo and Green Cargo will be integrated into XCB. As for Fret SNCF, the company plans to progressively link up to the broker by mid-2021.



Sassan Rabet, CEO of Xrail, with respect to the Fret SNCF entry: *“As sure as it is, that freight traffic in Europe will grow by up to 30 percent by 2030, it is necessary that such growth does not only take place on the road. With the extended network coverage of Xrail, Wagonload traffic becomes even more attractive in international freight transport. Not only people and the environment but also the European economy will profit from this.”*

About Fret SNCF

Fret SNCF develops rail freight solutions for its clients in France and – with the Captrain network - in Europe, whatever their business sector may be. With more than 600 sites served in France and regular high capacity connections on the major economic corridors, Fret SNCF is the number one rail carrier in France. By offering innovative and highly competitive rail products, Fret SNCF is committed to increase the share of rail in overall European freight transport to fight climate change.

About Xrail

Xrail is the European Single Wagonload Alliance, aiming to make the European Single Wagonload a more competitive and more sustainable alternative to road transport by implementing capacity-managed networks linked together through the Xrail Capacity Booking (XCB) broker. Xrail plays a crucial role in driving innovation and standardization for the International Single Wagonload by developing cross-border production concepts and seamless, smart IT solutions. The Alliance thereby focuses on the improved operational collaboration among the partners. Commercial elements of Single Wagonload traffic (e.g. customer relations or pricing) are outside this scope and remain the direct responsibility of the respective Alliance members.