

Press release

Cargo Rail Europe appreciates the product alliance of the rail freight companies – but is warning of illusions

(Paderborn/Brussels, Feb. 19th 2010). The association of the European rail freight customers Cargo Rail Europe (CRE)* appreciates the founding of a product alliance of 7 rail freight companies in the field of single wagonload traffic. CRE hopes that this alliance “Xrail” will fulfil their announcement to make the international single wagon load traffic on the railway more effective and consumer friendly.

But CRE sees this aim very sceptically. Because nearly at the same time when Xrail was founded, Trenitalia, for example, the leading railway freight company in Italy, announced several weeks ago that in March 2010 it will not transport dangerous goods for the chemical industry any more. Trenitalia justified its decision with the fact that they cannot guarantee the tracking and tracing of the wagons in real time. Only if this new alliance Xrail will carry those classical railway transports further on and improve the partly bad performances of several railway companies, which are now members of Xrail, this new alliance has a real chance to bring more goods on the rail. Xrail has promptly to fix today’s lack of the European single wagon load traffic in Italy.

For further information contact: Dr. Markus Hoeschen, Authorized Representative CRE, Tel. + 49 5251 / 180 75 87 or m.hoeschen@cargoraileurope.com

(Cargo Rail Europe represents the European rail freight customers, who are transporting their goods by train and making major investments in this field. They are the clients of the forwarders, operators etc. and so they are the real actors of the rail freight transport.)*