

ChemMultimodal

Promotion of Multimodal Transport in Chemical Logistics



Newsletter II.

July 2017

ChemMultimodal introduced to Vice-President of the European Parliament

Delegates of the Warsaw School of Economics (SGH) and the Polish Chamber of Chemical Industry (PIPC) introduced and discussed the aims and concepts of ChemMultimodal with Prof. Bogusław Liberadzki - the Second Vice President of the European Parliament. Prof. Liberadzki took great interest in the project activities aiming for a shift of chemical cargo transportation from road to rail. On 31 May 2017, the European Commission adopted the first part of its "Europe on the Move" initiative aiming for a clean and competitive transport in Europe. It includes eight legislative proposals with focus on the road sector. They include the harmonisation of charges for heavy goods vehicles for the use of certain infrastructures, common conditions for occupation in the road transport sector and rules for the international road haulage market. The second package of Europe on the Move is expected to include a proposal to revise the Combined Transport Directive which regulates multimodal transport. The European Parliament will soon address the proposals and consider amendments to the proposed legislation.

Exchange with Policy-Makers in Brussels



Brussels – About 40 stakeholders and policy-makers of European freight transport of chemical goods came together on 21 June 2017 at Saxony-Anhalt's Representation in Brussels to discuss policies aiming at increasing multimodal transport across Europe.

After the welcoming word by Dr. Jürgen Ude began the first session of the meeting, which was dedicated to the decision-making process in European transport policies. Astrid Schlewing outlined the recent activities of the European Commission to assess the legal framework. First results point at barriers in the interoperability between modes and countries as well as the lack of knowledge and best practices in multimodal transport solutions.

Jos Verlinden opened the event's second session where the perspectives of different stakeholders were highlighted. He presented the recommendations formulated by Cefic organisation to enhance intermodal transport across

Europe. He emphasized the support of the chemical industry to decarbonise the transport of materials and products, knowing that the industry needs to become more transparent to share data on its cargo flow. Akos Ersek explained to the participants afterwards the development of combined rail and road freight transport in recent years. According to Marc Billiet, thinking intermodality must include road transport and it should be seen as a complementary and not a competitive element in the freight transport network.

As final speaker, Dr. Libor Jochmann put forward the safety of rail transport for hazardous materials which is also due to the high number of regulations applying for rail transport. The final discussion highlighted that a number of challenges persist on the track towards achieving the ambitious objectives of greener freight transport in Europe. The increase of multimodal transport is one important cornerstone but not the only area where more efforts are necessary.