

Project Newsletter #6



Rail4Regions is an Interreg Central Europe project that is aiming at improving the access to the European rail freight networks. Twelve project partners are developing solutions to optimise regional rail lines and access points and create action plans to encourage the uptake of their solutions in regional development plans.

Photo above: Rail4Regions partners visit the construction site of 2TDK near Koper, Slovenia.

[Visit our Website](#)

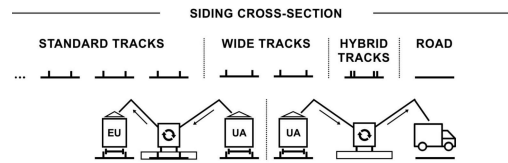
Webinar on feeder lines' potentials for revitalisation

Our transnational working group, which is addressing branch and feeder lines and their potential revitalisation for rail freight transport, are inviting all interested transport and spatial planners to join a one-hour webinar that will take place on **July 18th, 2024, starting at 10 a.m.** If you are away for your well-earned holidays, you can ask for a recording of the event.

[Further webinar information](#)

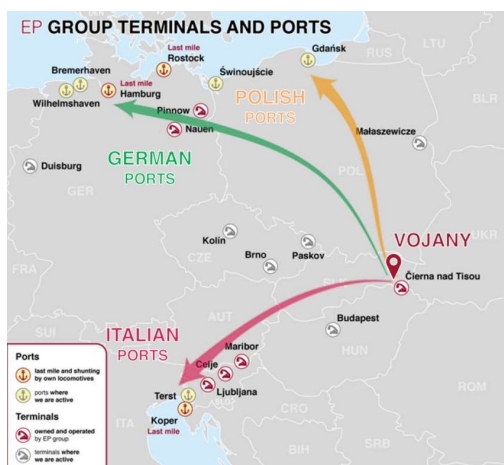
Reconstruction of a reloading point on the former Vojany siding on the Slovak-Ukrainian border

Vojany is a former coal-fired power plant with an existing railway siding. This is a dual-gauge siding with both wide (1520 mm) and standard (1435 mm) track gauge. It is located on the regional line Bánovce nad Ondavou - Maťovce. The former Vojany siding was used to supply fuel to the former power plant. The power plant was closed for environmental reasons and the siding has not been used since. In 2023, the siding was reopened and is currently used as a cargo terminal for shipments from Ukraine to various European countries. Services in eastern Slovakia at the former Vojany power station siding are provided by EP Cargo, a member of EP Logistics International. EP Cargo offers a full range of logistics services at the cargo terminal to its customers, from weighing, documentation and customs clearance to the actual transport of agricultural products.



The terminal can handle around 1,850 tonnes of goods per day. With such capacity, it can handle up to 8 full trains per month, meaning that it usually takes up to three full days to unload one full train.

The cargo terminal is open to operators from the Eastern Slovakia and, thanks to its location close to the Ukrainian border, has the potential for further development as an international cargo centre.



This modernisation of the siding, formerly used for coal transportation and currently used for agricultural commodities, is a good practice example regarding the revitalization of the international railway freight transport on regional lines.

The former railway siding has been modernised and it is currently used as a cargo terminal for agricultural

commodities transported from Ukraine. The terminal uses special handling equipment (agricultural machinery, tractors and locomotives, etc.). Since both wide and standard gauge exist at the facility, the terminal is used for transshipping goods from wide gauge to standard gauge wagons and from rail to road vehicles as well.



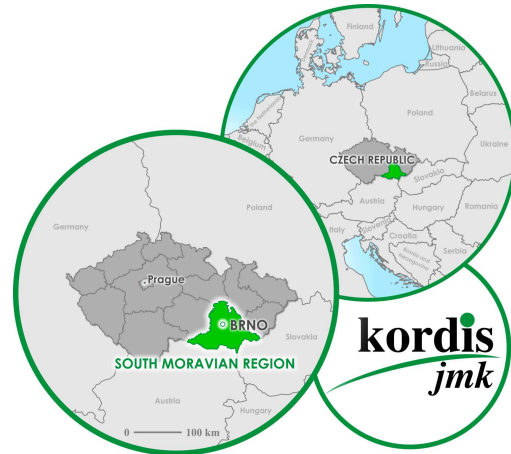
All images (c) EP Cargo

KORDIS's mission is to manage public transport services. They integrate and coordinate regional trains, regional buses and urban public transport in order to create efficient sustainable mobility solutions for the entire South Moravian Region. Beside that, KORDIS has an experienced team, with the expertise for both railway transport planning and implementation of development projects funded by the EU.

The geographic position of the South Moravian Region in the middle of Central Europe allows the development of freight transport at both north-south and east-west axes. Importance of freight transport for the region can also be observed from the development of cargo terminal at the Brno airport in recent years.

This results in a delicate balance between passenger trains and freight trains in the Brno railway node. The project will help us to outline possible steps for use of a siding by freight and passenger trains.

Meet our partners: KORDIS (CZ)



Visit KORDIS' [website](#) for more information.

Transport and logistics sector looking to meet the sustainability goals

The President of the Province of Novara, Federico Binatti, and the external expert Giancarlo Bertalero took part to a seminar held in Novara, Italy, titled "Transport, Logistics and Sustainability" on 25 May 2024 (see photo below). During his speech, Giancarlo Bertalero stressed the problems related to the Alpine road crossing for heavy traffic, taking this opportunity to introduce our project Rail4Regions and how the Province of Novara as a project partner aims to benefit from its participation.



Rail4Regions

<https://www.interreg-central.eu/projects/rail4regions/>

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