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Transport Research Arena 2014

Innovate Mobility, Mobilise Innovation!

UIC participation in the 5th edition of the Transport Research Arena (TRA) to be held in Paris (La Défense) from 14th – 17th April

(Paris, 9 April 2014) TRA is a high level scientific conference which deals with European and national research activities and all aspects of R&D: from basic sciences, socioeconomic research to applied sciences and demonstration activities. It covers all surface transport modes: rail, road, waterborne and their interfaces.

At a key moment for the European rail sector, with the on-going development of the Horizon 2020 1st call and the final discussions regarding the adoption of the future SHIFT²RAIL Joint Undertaking, this conference is the opportunity for all stakeholders involved in research and innovation in transport to demonstrate their commitment towards a more sustainable mobility for our societies in Europe.

The 2014 edition, following the 2012 edition in Athens where rail was for the first time invited to participate, is the opportunity for the UIC and its members to show the continuous investment in research and innovation as part of development of the rail system of the future.

On Wednesday 16th April, Mr. Loubinoux, UIC Director General, will in particular participate in a strategic session organised on the following theme: *“Rail as an Attractive and Sustainable Mode for the Future”*. This will especially be the occasion to present the Rail Technical Strategy Europe (RTSE) published in February 2014. The RTSE is a development of the “Challenge 2050” vision document (published in 2013) and sets out the key technical priorities for the Rail Operating Community (ROC) in order to meet the expectations of its end users in both passenger and freight services.

The RTSE is also a significant source of ideas from the ROC for the development of the ERRAC Strategic Rail Research and Innovation Agenda (SRRIA) to be presented by Mr. Doppelbauer at the opening session of TRA on 14th April.

TRA will also be the occasion for the UIC, via its own stand, to promote the technical expertise that can be brought to the development of research and innovation through the European framework programmes, the administrative services that can be provided through its External Funding Unit and the specialism that has been developed for the dissemination of communication materials, deliverables and the development of standards. A number of UIC technical specialists will be involved in the organisation of scientific sessions, especially on infrastructure and security issues.

TRA is a great opportunity for all stakeholders in the transport domain, and more especially those dealing with research and innovation, to network and discover new ideas which could pave the way towards tomorrow's transport system.

As for the rail part, UIC will relay the message from all its members about the fundamental role for railways in the sustainable mobility for future generations in Europe and the need to continue supporting investment in research and innovation to maintain the leadership of the European rail sector.

More information: www.traconference.eu

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