

## ERRAC elects new Chairman, Vice-Chairmen at the first ERRAC plenary of 2015

The European Rail Research and Advisory Council (ERRAC) met today in Paris for the first of their two plenary meetings in 2015 and elected a new Chairman and Vice-Chairmen for the Council.

During the plenary, Andy Doherty of Network Rail was elected as the new ERRAC Chairman with a three-year mandate. Mr Doherty has served as the interim Chairman of ERRAC since the beginning of this year after the previous Chairman, Josef Doppelbauer began his mandate as the Executive Director of the European Railway Agency. Prior to this, Mr Doherty served as Vice-Chairman of ERRAC from 2012, representing the railway undertakings in the ERRAC leadership.

Additionally, Nicolas Castres Saint-Martin (Alstom Transport) and Manuel Pereira have been elected as the new ERRAC Vice-Chairmen, representing both the Industry and Academia, respectively, on the Council leadership.

The ERRAC plenary was also the occasion for ERRAC members to discuss the future role of ERRAC, taking into account the European Commission and railway sector priorities. The European Commission (DG Move and DG Research) attended this event and reported on the Commission's views for the future of European Rail Research, specifically addressing the status of Shift2Rail, Horizon 2020, and cooperation with other European Technology Platforms. Finally, Fernando Liesa from the European Technology Platform ALICE (logistic platform) attended and presented on the possible synergies between ERRAC and ALICE.

**ERRAC Chairman Andy Doherty commented:** *"I would like to thank the members of the ERRAC plenary for their confidence. With the strong support of the ERRAC members, I am convinced that Horizon 2020 and SHIFT2RAIL can boost European rail research, allowing us to jointly face and master the upcoming challenges of the European rail sector."*

The next ERRAC plenary meeting will be held in November 2015.

FOSTER RAIL is funded under the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Commission.



FOSTER RAIL is initiated by the European Rail Research Advisory Council (ERRAC).



## Notes to editors:

FOSTER RAIL is a three-year project funded via the European Commission FP7 research programme. The project is coordinated by the International Union of Railways (UIC) with the support of the European Rail Industry (UNIFE) and relies on the following partners:

CER	UITP	EURNEX	Trafikverket
FFE	Bombardier	Ansaldo STS	SNCF
CZ TP	Network Rail	Alstom	RATP
TMB	IST	Deutsche Bahn	Austriatech
Mermec	NEWRAIL		

Through FOSTER RAIL, the ERRAC website has been rejuvenated. The platform and the project are now presented at [www.errac.org](http://www.errac.org)

For further information on Shift2Rail, please visit [www.shift2rail.org](http://www.shift2rail.org)

For more information on FOSTER RAIL and ERRAC please visit [www.errac.org](http://www.errac.org) or contact:

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