



PRESS RELEASE

3rd UIC-FIATA Market Place Seminar on 2 – 3 November 2010 in Barcelona:

“The French-Iberian rail link – Fostering European Connectivity”

(Paris, 10 September 2010). The International Union of Railways (UIC) and the International Freight Forwarders' Association (FIATA) will hold their third edition of the Market Place Seminar on 2 – 3 November 2010 in Barcelona.

The Market Place Seminar aims to create opportunities for increased cooperation and business development within the rail freight sector by offering a common platform for railway undertakings, freight forwarders and customers.

Following the success of the two previous seminars hosted in Prague (2008) and Istanbul (2009), which focused on rail's attractiveness and competitiveness in the Eastern and Southeastern European market, the seminar now turns the spotlight on France and Spain, and in particular the axis connecting central Europe to Spain.

The seminar is backed by RENFE, the Spanish railways, Fret SNCF, French railways, as well as the Port of Barcelona. *“It was natural for us to focus on a new market region this year. The French and the Spanish markets were a logical choice since the opening of the new railway line from Barcelona to the French border using the UIC standard gauge (launch scheduled for December 2010) will create new business opportunities for the railway sector in this area”*, says Oliver Sellnick, UIC Freight Director.

Seminar highlights:

- Introduction of the UIC standard gauge on the railway line from Barcelona to the French border: How will this influence the railway market?
- Development of hinterland transport around the port of Barcelona: What are the possible rail freight solutions and how can they be implemented?
- The railway connection: Best practices in the field of tailor-made solutions
- Shipping companies and logistics solutions: What is the state-of-the-art in multimodal solutions?

The Market Place Seminar is an excellent occasion for the European rail logistics professionals to learn more about business opportunities and requirements for doing rail business in this region and to expand their business network. The seminar will comprise two half-day sessions, between which there will be a social event allowing you to network with your industry peers in a relaxed and casual setting.

For more information about the seminar please visit the dedicated website: www.MarketPlaceSeminar.org

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