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## **Press statement**

UIP welcomes the publication of the 4<sup>th</sup> railway package and the efforts of the EU Commission towards a single European railway area.

However, in order to achieve the key objectives of the European transport policy including removing administrative and technical barriers and developing easy and harmonised procedures at European level, we expect that the strengthening of the role of ERA and the recast of the Safety and Interoperability directives will get the necessary attention during the legislative procedure.

If we want to see a competitive and transparent European railway market, the technical harmonisation on European level, the streamlining of administrative procedures and the removal of superfluous national regulations should be assured!

Brussels, 31.01.2013

## UIP - International Union of Wagon Keepers a.i.s.b.l.

Founded in 1950, the UIP – International Union of Wagon Keepers, with its seat in Brussels, is the umbrella association of national associations from fourteen European countries, thus representing more than 250 keepers with approximately 180.000 freight wagons, performing 50 % of the rail freight tonne-Kilometres throughout Europe. The UIP represents the members' concerns at international level. By means of research, lobbying and focused cooperation with all stakeholders and organisations interested in rail freight transportation, the UIP wants to secure on the long term the future of rail freight transport.