



**News release**  
**For immediate release**

### **EU Ministers put planned railway legislation on right track**

*(Brussels, 8 October 2015)*

Europe's need for a better connected and more efficient railway system has led the EU Transport Ministers today in Luxembourg to agree on the "**market pillar**" of the currently negotiated **4th EU Railway Package**.

**BUSINESSEUROPE's Director General Markus J. Beyrer commented:**

**"EU Ministers have set the right course with the market pillar, now they should swiftly arrive at their destination. Swift adoption of the full railway package will trigger investment in rail infrastructure, competitive prices for passenger and business clients and make rail services more efficient".**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Railway Package can contribute to a better functioning and more competitive *EU Single Market*. It aims to make it easier for new companies to enter national transport markets.

BUSINESSEUROPE supports an enhanced role for the European Railway Agency concerning safety certification and vehicle authorisation for cross-border operations:

**"An ambitious final agreement on the railway package will improve quality and would allow an estimated 20% cost and time reduction in approving to get trains on the tracks", said Beyrer.**

**Background:** At today's EU Transport Council on Thursday (8 October) Ministers agreed on a general approach on the two proposals to liberalise domestic rail passenger services and to strengthen the governance of railway structure. The proposals are part of the 4<sup>th</sup> Railway Package.

**ENDS**

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