Notification

Rules are notified by responsible bodies and users, as communicated by the Member States to the administrators of the database.

The Commission, assisted by ERA, evaluates whether submitted rules comply with the criteria for the rules to be notified and check accompanying legal information. This is necessary if rule users are to be provided with valuable information. An additional benefit is the clarification of the concept and the scope of NSRs and NTRs to be applied in Member States. Notif-IT will allow for time to be saved.

Search for rules

Published notifications are accessible from the welcome page ("Notifications"). Each displayed notification contains a rule (or several rules) and related information.

"Display Notifications" provides users with the lists of the notifications of NSRs and/or NTRs from the different Member States (plus the Channel Tunnel).

"Search for rule" engine offers the possibilities of quick and advanced searching modes. They can be screened according to a number of criteria, e.g. type, date of publication, document number, title, keyword, etc.





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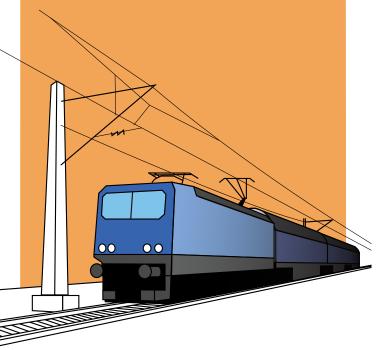
 A DATABASE OF NATIONAL RAILWAY SAFETY AND TECHNICAL RULES



Notif-IT (Notifications using Information Technology) is a web-based application developed by the European Commission in cooperation with the European Railway Agency (ERA) for the benefit of the Member States, the industry and the public.

From 1 June 2010, national railway safety and technical rules should be notified to the Commission via Notif-IT. The Commission will evaluate the notifications and publish the notified rules in this database.

Notif-IT will make national requirements more transparent and understandable. This will help with the EU objectives of developing railway transport and making the national railway systems more interoperable.



Context

EU Directives for railway safety and interoperability provide for the progressive creation of the internal market of railway equipment and services. They aim to improve rail system interoperability by maintaining a high level of safety. Harmonising railway rules at EU level is possible by introducing technical specifications for interoperability and common safety provisions.

To facilitate the transition period, the EU Directives bring in a number of requirements for the Member States for the establishment of national railway rules, their publication and accessibility, and notification to the Commission.

Publication of the notified rules in a public database will increase their accessibility. Building on ERA's experience with publishing rules in its database ERADIS, the Commission's database Notif-IT provides further modules which allow integrated and faster processes of the notification and publication of rules.

Objectives

Notif-IT was created to improve transparency and accessibility of national railway safety and technical rules for stakeholders in order to promote international transport by rail and easier access to the railway networks and supply markets across the EU. Notif-IT should also reduce administrative burden for everyone involved in rule notification and publication.

Legal background

- Article 8 of Directive 2004/49/EC (the Railway Safety Directive).
- Article 17 of Directive 2008/57/EC (the Railway Interoperability Directive).
- Article 19 of the ERA Regulation ((EC) 881/2004).

Content

Notif-IT shall contain:

- National safety rules applicable to more than one railway undertaking,
- National technical rules in use for implementing the essential requirements for each subsystem, as well as information on the bodies designated to carry out the verification procedure.

The database shall provide the full text of the notified rule version in the national language(s). Also included will be accompanying information including legal references, description of the scope and the principal content.

In the beginning Notif-IT will provide for the national safety rules (NSRs) which have been notified by the Member States and registered by ERA before 1 June 2010. It will grow gradually with new notifications according to Directives 2004/49/EC and 2008/57/EC, as well as the notifications of national technical rules (NTRs) made in the past in line with the revoked Directives 96/48/EC and 2001/16/EC.