

# ChemMultimodal

## Promotion of Multimodal Transport in Chemical Logistics



Newsletter III.

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### Rastatt a disaster for intermodal transport

**Rastatt**—Rail infrastructure bottlenecks are among the main reasons why endless lines of trucks are congesting roads while rail freight transport cannot unleash its full potentials. Especially the unexpected closure of the Rhine valley train line after a contraction of a tunnel destabilised the tracks near Rastatt, Southern Germany, made this evident. About 200 cargo trains use the Rhine valley line each day, representing about 70,000 shipments. Only a small number of trains can use diversion lines going through Alsace or Stuttgart and Singen, resulting in rail freight transport capacities between Italy and Northern Europe via Switzerland reaching only 25 per cent of their normal (for intermodal transport even only 15 per cent of their usual capacity). The damage of railway logistics is enormous.

In an open letter addressed to Transport Commissioner Bulc and German Federal Transport Minister Dobrindt, logistics service providers and environmental groups from several member states ask to improve the network of diversion lines, to eliminate national railway particularities that hindered to reroute more freight transport designated for the Rhine valley line via France and Belgium, and to implement a European coordination of major rail construction to avoid a situation where both a main rail line and possible diversion routes become unusable at the same time.

### Explaining the ChemMultimodal tool-box in less than five minutes

With its four elements being elaborated by different project partners in as many countries, the tool-box produced by ChemMultimodal during its first implementation year is fairly complex. Its purpose is to support chemical companies together with their logistics service providers in investigating the expansion of multimodal transport of their materials and goods. The tool will be tested by the project team

in a one-year long pilot phase commencing in autumn 2017 across all partner regions. To invite companies to participate in the pilot phase a video-clip summarising the tool-box in just 4.5 minutes has been produced and published. You can find the video on the project website or watch it directly on YouTube: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qa\\_eOU7LzC8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qa_eOU7LzC8)).



Multimodal transportation for the chemicals industry:  
sustainably, safely and reliably to the destination!



### Upcoming project event

On 11 & 12 October 2017 all partners of ChemMultimodal will come together at Budapest (HU) to plan and discuss the next project activities, especially the pilot phase. The event will be hosted by IFKA Public Benefit Non-Profit Ltd. for the De-

velopment of Industry. Participants of the event will also have the opportunity to visit the 140,000 sqm METRANS rail hub terminal on the shores of the Danube river that had opened for operations in January 2017.