



## Join the Rail Working Group

(and become part of the world's only truly global rail network)

**The Luxembourg Protocol to the Cape Town Convention is a new international treaty that introduces a global legal system to make it cheaper and easier for the private sector to finance railway rolling stock without the need for state guarantees or support.** It provides for the recognition and prioritisation of security interests held by creditors lending on, or leasing, all types of railway rolling stock. This security will be registered in a new international registry, in Luxembourg, which is searchable through the internet by the public 24/7 and the Protocol introduces, for the first time a new global unique permanent identification system (URVIS) for rolling stock. The Protocol entered into force in contracting states on **8th March 2024**.

### We represent the interests of the rail industry

The Rail Working Group (RWG) is a not-for-profit association established at the request of UNIDROIT in 1996 to represent the interests of the rail industry in drafting, adopting and implementing the Luxembourg Rail. Our active involvement during the drafting of the Protocol ensured that the text now reflects the commercial realities of the rail industry. We have also taken a leading role in drafting the [Regulations](#) and [Procedures](#) for the [international registry](#) and today we continue to work actively with governments, intergovernmental organisations such as the European Union, the African Union and the UN, industry bodies as well as the two sponsoring organisations, OTIF and UNIDROIT, and are a member of the experts' commission set up by the Supervisory Authority - the intergovernmental organisation overseeing the operation of the international registry.

### Our objectives

The RWG works with the rail industry, governments and government agencies to:

- Raise awareness of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol
- Promote its adoption in a form that will encourage greater and more cost-effective private-sector financing of capital investment in railway rolling stock

### Our principles

The RWG:

- Supports increased capital investment in railway rolling stock
- Believes that private sector finance is the key to effective and expanding rolling stock procurement in the rail industry
- Considers that adequate and internationally applicable security systems are essential in order to encourage more private investment in railway rolling stock
- Supports the application of the 2001 Cape Town Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment to all railway rolling stock through the adoption of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol
- Encourages the rail industry to press governments to expedite signature and ratification of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol, and urges its implementation in a cost-effective manner, taking into account current business and operational practices
- Recommends to manufacturers that they introduce as soon as possible (where not already in place) unique identification systems for each item of rolling stock produced

The RWG is an association under Swiss law. You can read our Articles of Association [here](#).

### **Why your organisation should be part of the RWG**

Membership is open to all stakeholders in the rail industry who support the RWG's objectives and accept its principles.

#### **Who should join the RWG?**

- Rolling stock sellers, owners and operators
- Rolling stock manufacturers, maintenance companies and other service providers
- Lessors and lessees of rolling stock
- Banks and other lenders providing credit for the rail sector
- Law firms and other professional advisers
- Brokers, agents and consultants in the rail sector
- Individuals interested in rail and rail finance
- Trade associations

Membership allows you to influence the development of a key international treaty that will have a positive effect on the rail industry for decades to come.

As a member, you gain valuable specialist knowledge that helps you protect your interests and those of your clients, business partners or members. The RWG also offers excellent, targeted business networking and marketing opportunities. Our [list of existing members](#) speaks for itself.

#### **Your benefits as a member**

##### ***Up-to-date, specialist knowledge***

- Direct access to all internal RWG working papers and draft official documents
- Expert advice on the interpretation of the Protocol
- Keep up to date with all the latest developments via the Rail Working Group's [LinkedIn group page](#)
- Open invitation to attend all meetings of the RWG (in person or virtually)

##### ***Networking and marketing opportunities***

- Participation in a unique "insiders' network" of rail industry professionals
- Membership of your [local contact group](#)
- Listing on the [RWG website](#) with a direct link to your website
- Participation in RWG seminars and events, creating new business contacts and opportunities
- Discounts on industry conferences supported by the RWG

#### **How to become a member**

The cost of joining the RWG is a modest admission fee of €250 and an annual subscription of €300. Simply download and complete the [membership application form](#), and return it to us at [info@railworkinggroup.org](mailto:info@railworkinggroup.org) or at the address below.

If you have any questions, please go to our [website](#) or contact:

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**We look forward to welcoming you on board.**