



The Joint Sector Group

To

- the heads of the undersigned associations  
(for distribution to all members)
- all national Joint EVIC/EWT bodies  
(for information and translation into national languages)

Copy:

- GCU bureau (for information)

Brussels, 30.11.2011

### **Publication of European Common Criteria for Maintenance (ECCM) for freight wagon axles**

Dear Ladies and Sirs,

the European Task Force on Freight wagon/axle maintenance, installed in the consequence of the Viareggio accident and the EU Rail Safety Conference 2009, had adopted an European Action (Joint Sector) programme. This programme contains the already introduced elements: European Visual Inspection Catalogue (EVIC), EVIC Sampling programme and European Wheelset Traceability (EWT) for today's done maintenance.

As an integrating element and part of its tasks, the Joint Sector Group developed the European-wide Common Criteria for the Maintenance of freight wagon wheelset (ECCM). These rules are harmonizing - to a reasonable extent - various existing national / company wheelset maintenance rules of RUs and keepers/ECMs all over Europe to EU-wide harmonised, basic requirements in view to the needs of safe operation of wheelsets.

The European Railway Agency (ERA) and the National Safety Authorities (NSAs) agreed on the ECCM rules within the ERA Task Force during the 2<sup>nd</sup> follow-up meeting of the TF on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2011. The ECCM are currently being integrated into the revised European Standard EN 15 313 (Wheelset Maintenance). A **publication of the revised EN 15 313 is foreseen for 2012.**

To anticipate this development and to prepare the Sector to the future requirements and measures, the ECCM shall be published now to the sector members via the respective Associations. The Joint Sector Bodies in each country are asked to provide if necessary a translation for their national members.



Under their own responsibility and until the official publication of the revised EN 15 313, the ECMs should be able to adapt their maintenance rules in time, on the basis of the ECCM linked to the different maintenance levels,

We remind you that the Sector programme (in this case: the ECCM) was agreed by all parties in the ERA Task Force and is binding as a self-commitment for all sector members. A non-respect of the ECCM could, in the worst case, lead to the refusal of Railway Undertakings to operate wagons of keepers/ECMs not respecting the ECCM.

We thank you very much for your support on this activity. We will keep you informed about all further developments. Please also check [www.jsgrail.eu](http://www.jsgrail.eu) for further information.

With best regards,

CER  
Dirk Müller  
Expert

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General Manager

**annex:**

- ECCM V1.1 (English)