



The unifying platform for the railway  
sector in the Netherlands

Amsterdam March 17, 2008



# History

- 1992
- Growth ambition public transport
- Growth ambition rail freight
- Liberalisation / free market on rail
- Political decision: splitting up NS
- Fear of losing knowledge
- Fear of decreasing innovation

# Initiative Railforum

- Stakeholders (main ports, companies, T&T)
- Sharing knowledge
- Influence on public opinion
- Research agenda
- Innovation agenda

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# Unique platform

- Large group of parties
- Combination of non-profit and private partners
- All partners in the business
- Also new companies
- Unifies the broadest alliance possible
- 80 members and 20 partners (other associations, customer platforms, science)

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# Mission statement

- Increase the public value of rail transport
- Freedom of choice of the transport mode, level playing field
- Rail transport as a contribution to environmentally compatible mobility
- Rail transport as a contribution to safer mobility

# Objectives Railforum

- Offering meetings
- Information, knowledge and exchange of experiences
- Develop new knowledge and opinions
- Offering a platform for innovations
- Customer oriented

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# 80 members

- 15 non-profit (public services, central, regional)
- 5 logistic service companies
- 7 public transport companies
- 2 alliances
- 35 consulting companies
- 10 industrial companies
- 6 building companies

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# Alliances

- ANWB
  - Railinfra Opleidingen (academies)
  - Science / universities
  - Costumer platforms
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- The Railway Forum (UK)
  - Allianz pro Schiene (D)
  - Czech Republic

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# Organisation

- 80 members (each member is equal)
- Board with 11 members (consensus)
- Office with 5 employees

# Finances

- Association with active members
- Contribution in money and time
- Each member is equal
- Independent
- Budget € 460.000 each year(80 x € 5750)
- Costs: mostly wages, rent and catering

# Activities

- Conferences, seminars, workshops
- Projects
- Excursions
- ‘Jonge Veranderaars’ network
- Data store [www.railpedia.nl](http://www.railpedia.nl)
- Communication, letter, website  
[www.railforum.nl](http://www.railforum.nl)

# Expectations

- Meeting place, “place to be”
  - Exchange of knowledge and opinions
  - Joint agenda in rail business
  - Impulses for innovations and changing the culture
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- Positive attitude rail

# Results

- Many visitors, the right level
- Knowledge exchange, open sphere
- Agenda setting unifies
- New processes, innovations (examples)
- Keeping railways integrated
- Positive image

# Dutch Rail

- Growth passengers 5 %, freight more
- Capacity management instead of invest.
- Strengthening the chains (-- and I )
- Client focus
- More life cycle costs management
- Safety management as quality mgt.
- Innovations, next generation