

## Why we need rail freight

### To protect the environment

Rail offers a carbon dioxide reduction solution to Government. Transport is responsible for 28% of carbon dioxide emissions in UK and 92% of domestic transport emissions are from road modes.

**Tonne for tonne carried, rail freight creates 70% less carbon dioxide than the equivalent road journey. Rail is therefore also more energy efficient than road – DfT**

*Logistics Perspective Page 8 section10 2008*



Freightliner train leaving Felixstowe



DB Schenker intermodal services at Trafford Park

### To relieve road congestion

Rail is able to act as a freight bypass by offering a more reliable alternative as road congestion continues to worsen. In fact, road congestion costs business an estimated £17 bn per annum.

**Remember an average freight train can remove 50 lorries from our roads – Network Rail 2008**

### Rail is safer than long distance road freight using motorways

As HGVs are over 3 times more likely to be involved in fatal accidents than cars due to a combination of size, lack of proper enforcement of drivers hours, vehicle overloading and differing foreign operating standards.- *DfT Road Statistics 2008, Tables 3.2 and 3.6, Road Freight Statistics 2008 Section 5.*

### To boost the economy

Rail freight is vital for the future economic well-being of the British economy. It literally keeps the lights on; a quarter of our electricity comes from coal transported by rail. A quarter of maritime containers imported into Southern English container ports are transported by rail in the UK. Each day, rail handles up to 1,000 containers moving through the Port of Southampton which removes 1,000 lorries from the local roads and the A34 northwards to the West Midlands and beyond.

Rail freight volumes have increased by 60% in the past ten years and rail now has a 12% share of the UK surface freight market (road and rail) compared with 8% in 1994/5 and the industry predicts that rail freight will have more than doubled by 2030.

Rail freight has a major role to play in reducing the carbon footprint of transport and reducing road congestion, we are campaigning for the right policies and upgraded infrastructure to get more freight transferred to rail. As there is considerable suppressed demand for rail, continued investment in the rail network is vital to sustain jobs and the economy.



DB SCHENKER

DIRECT RAIL SERVICES



Freightliner

Campaign for Better Transport



Freight on Rail is a partnership of many organisations promoting the economic and environmental benefits of rail freight

## What we are asking local authorities to do



Direct Rail Services intermodal train taken by Phil Metcalfe

- Protect transport corridors in the short and long term for future rail use in LDFs, using PPG13 safeguarding policies.
- Lobby CLG to preserve PPG13 safeguarding policies.
- Include rail freight schemes in regional DaSTS schemes
- Include rail freight schemes in RFA bids for CP5 after 2014
- Make provision for rail freight in LTPs.

## What we are asking the Government to do

### Provide the planning framework at national, regional and local levels to promotes rail freight which:

- Uses the National Policy Statement on national networks to protect transport corridors long term for future rail use
- Allows planning permission to be gained for new terminals/interchanges without which more freight cannot be transferred to rail

### Continue support for the Strategic Rail Freight Network beyond 2014

### Lobby the European Commission to reject longer, heavier lorries (LHVs)

Whilst we welcome the Government's decision to reject 25-metre, 60-tonne lorries in the UK, there is a danger that LHVs will come to the UK by default if the EC allows LHVs in individual member states.

### Establish a level playing field between the different freight modes which reflects all the external and congestion costs

We support a policy which reflects all the external costs and congestion costs of freight transport.



Contact Freight on Rail Manager  
Philippa Edmunds on 020 8241 9982 or by  
email [philippa@freightonrail.org.uk](mailto:philippa@freightonrail.org.uk)  
[www.freightonrail.org.uk](http://www.freightonrail.org.uk)



SCHENKER

DIRECT RAIL SERVICES



Freightliner

Campaign for Better Transport

