



## RETRACK CONTACT DETAILS

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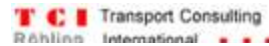
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## An Innovative East-West Rail Freight Corridor



### The Project

The RETRACK project is applying an innovative rail freight service concept to the movement of rail freight across Europe. This is being achieved through the design, development and implementation of a commercial trans-European rail freight service along the rail corridor between the North Sea ports of Rotterdam (Netherlands) and Antwerp (Belgium) (Netherlands) and Constanza (Romania) on the Black Sea.

The project aims to secure a significant modal shift of cargo from road to rail and to create an effective and scalable rail freight corridor between high demand regions in Western Europe and new high growth regions in Central and Eastern Europe. The project will look to develop links with other emergent corridors from the TEN-T network as well as those assessed in the REORIENT project. RETRACK puts a broader continental perspective by aiming now at possible connection of existing West-East European corridor further to Russia and China.

RETRACK intends to explore the potentials for corridor extension to Russia and China through three alternative Eurasian rail routes.

A first pilot service between Rotterdam and Hungary started in the beginning of 2010. With this innovative concept and strategically chosen corridor, RETRACK intends to demonstrate that rail freight services along trans-European corridors supported by market liberalisation can be successfully offered as a genuine competitive alternative to road haulage. In addition, the concept implemented in RETRACK will benefit European shippers, logistics service providers, European society and citizens, upcoming rail freight operators, and the wider logistics industry in Russia and Asia.

Based on the project results of RETRACK a corridor based Knowledge Base will be developed. Data and information will be transferred into knowledge for public and private stakeholders in rail freight transport.

### The Consortium

The RETRACK consortium of 14 partners includes European privately owned rail freight operators, experienced IT and training specialists and leading European R&D organisations which are actively contributing to the success of the project.

### Context

RETRACK is the “REorganisation of Transport networks by advanced RAil freight Concepts”. It is funded under the European Commission (EC) FP6 Programme. The project started in May 2007 and will run for five years. The RETRACK project aims to contribute to the Commission’s aspirations of a modal shift of freight traffic from road to rail with a market share of 15% by 2020 to achieve commercial viability and contribute to sustainable mobility. This aspiration is also supported by the European Rail Research Advisory Council’s (ERRAC) declared aim of bolstering rail’s market share of freight to a similar level.

