



WELCOME

Welcome to the first newsletter about the exciting new European Rail Awards! Our monthly newsletters will keep you informed with everything you need to know about the Awards. They will also include insightful commentary and analysis on topical issues from key players across the European rail market.



EUROPEAN RAIL AWARDS' MISSION TO SPREAD BEST PRACTICE IS WELL SUPPORTED

An exciting new vehicle to spread rail best practice across Europe and help foster a single European rail market culture is being supported by MEPs from the European Parliament's Transport and Tourism Committee, the European Commission's DG MOVE, CER, EIM, EPF, ERA, ERFA and UNIFE.

The European Rail Awards will bring the euro rail network together to celebrate its achievements in providing efficient, high quality and safe connectivity across Europe; reducing Europe's emission of greenhouse gases; boosting jobs and economic growth; and facilitating European competitiveness. It will also help new market entrants to learn from the more established players.

Chair of the European Parliament's Transport and Tourism Committee and Chair of the European Rail Awards Judging Panel Brian Simpson MEP said: "Railways perform a crucial social and economic function within in our daily lives. Despite the odd problem, railways across Europe deliver day in day out without gaining the proper recognition amongst the public that it deserves. I therefore believe these awards are essential. If we don't blow our own trumpet for the excellent achievements made by those in the rail sector, then nobody else will blow it for us. These awards will encourage and reward European excellence across a wide spectrum of railway professionalism. I believe it is particularly welcome that the views and opinions of highly regarded peers will determine the award winners." [READ MORE...](#)



CHAIRS OF JUDGING AND TECHNICAL PANELS ANNOUNCED



Chair of the European Parliament's Transport and Tourism Committee, Brian Simpson MEP, has been announced as Chair of the European Rail Awards Judging Panel with Director General, European Commission – DG MOVE, Matthias Ruete, announced as Chair of the Technical Panel.

The Technical Panel will help underpin the decision making process undertaken by the political Judging Panel.

The Judging Panel is made up of MEPs from the European Parliament's Transport and Tourism Committee and includes Chair Brian Simpson, Vice Chair Dominique Riquet, Michael Cramer, Said El Khadraoui, Ines Ayala Sender and Debora Serracchiani.

The judges will assess all the entries submitted and their decision making will be supported by a technical panel chaired by Matthias Ruete DG MOVE with representatives from CER, EIM, EPF, ERA, ERFA and UNIFE.

Brian Simpson MEP said: "These awards will encourage and reward European excellence across a wide spectrum of railway professionalism. It is particularly welcome that the views and opinions of highly regarded peers will determine the award winners."

ENTRIES:

Entrants can make their submissions online to the 19 different award categories.

Deadline for entries:
19 April 2013

Entries are welcome from both EU and non-EU European countries.

Award winners will be announced at the inaugural 2013 European Rail Awards ceremony in London on 12 November 2013.

EU TRANSPORT COMMISSIONER SIIM KALLAS TO SPEAK AT AWARDS CEREMONY



The European Rail Awards is delighted that Vice President of the European Commission and European Commissioner for Transport, Siim Kallas MEP, will be giving the keynote speech at our first ever Awards Ceremony on 12th November 2013 in London.

Winners of the nineteen award categories will be announced at the ceremony at the Westminster Park Plaza in Central London.

The Awards ceremony will bring the European rail community together to celebrate its achievements in providing efficient, high quality and safe connectivity across Europe; reducing Europe's emission of greenhouse gases; boosting jobs and economic growth; and facilitating European competitiveness.

Chair of the Awards Judging Panel, Brian Simpson MEP, said: "These awards will encourage and reward European excellence across a wide spectrum of railway professionalism. It is particularly welcome that the views and opinions of highly regarded peers will determine the award winners."

A drinks reception and formal dinner will take place before the ceremony begins.

COMING UP IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

- KPMG focuses on the publication of the final details of the European Commission's Fourth Railways Package and discusses its implications
- Advice on submitting your entry for the European Rail Awards

- Details of the European Rail Awards 2013 Conference in London

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