

Q ECTA Annual Meeting

Dr. Dirk Stahl, CEO BLS Cargo, President ERFA 14th November 2024, Düsseldorf

-O Content of presentation

- 1. Perspective BLS Cargo and ERFA
- 2. Development Intermodal Traffic and shift to rail (CH, EU)
- 3. Main conditions for an efficient rail system (infrastructure, competition, financing)
- 4. Chances
- 5. Challenges
- 6. Development of competitive RU
- 7. Conclusion

-O 1. Perspective BLS Cargo Group

- BLS Cargo AG founded 2001
- Shareholders: BLS (52%), Captrain Holding (45%) und Ambrogio Trasporti (3%)
- Tochtergesellschaften:
 - Crossrail Benelux N.V. (100%; 2019)
 - BLS Cargo Deutschland GmbH (100%; 2007)
 - BLS Cargo Italia S.r.l. (100%, 2006)
- > 400 Employees
- 22.000 trains/year



-O 1. Perspective ERFA (European Rail Freight Association)

«We represent the voice of private and independent rail freight companies in Europe»





-O 2. Why shift good on rail?



Source: Rail Freight Forward Initiative

-O 2. Shift to rail successfully done in Switzerland market share rail in transit traffic 72%

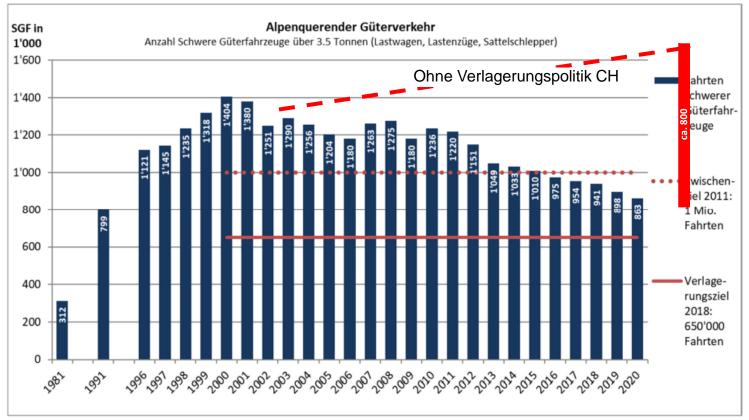
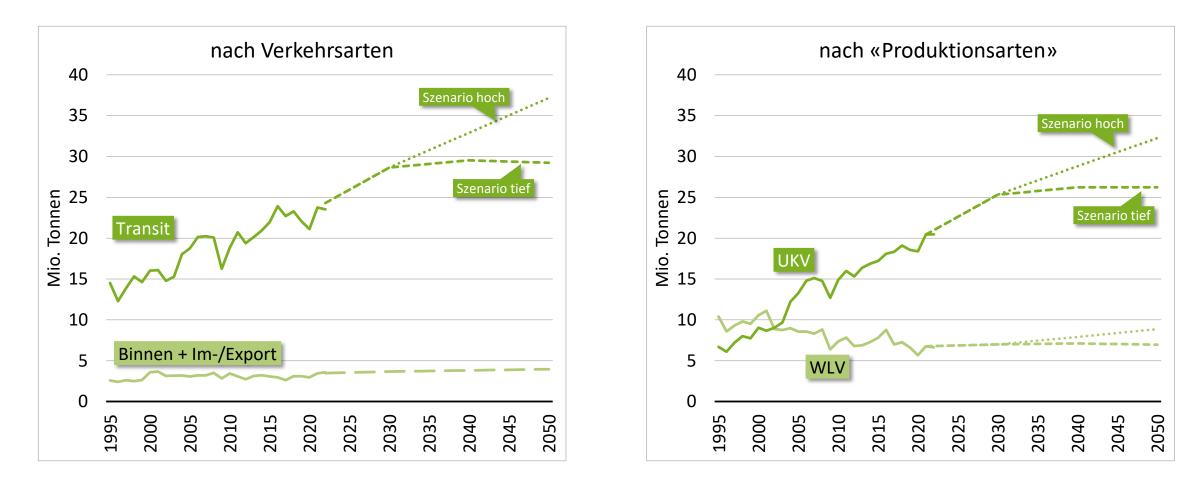


Abbildung 1: Entwicklung alpenquerender Güterverkehr auf der Strasse 1981 bis 2020.

-O 2. Prognoses Alp Transit Switzerland 2050 (2023) strong growth in Intermodal traffic



-O 3. Main conditions for an efficient rail system

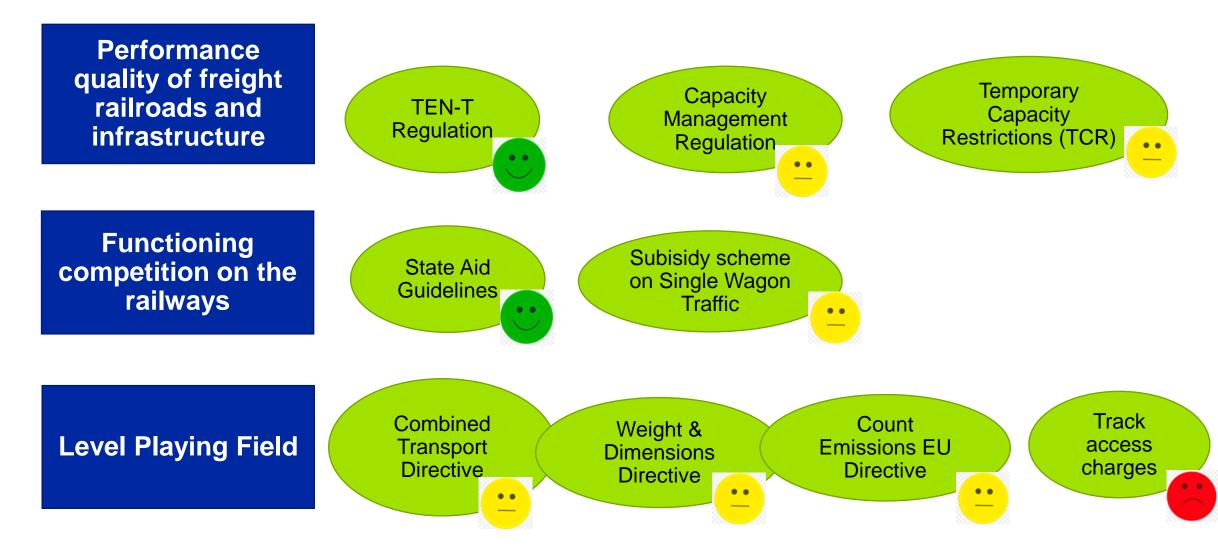
Performance quality of freight railroads and infrastructure

Functioning competition on the railways

Level Playing Field

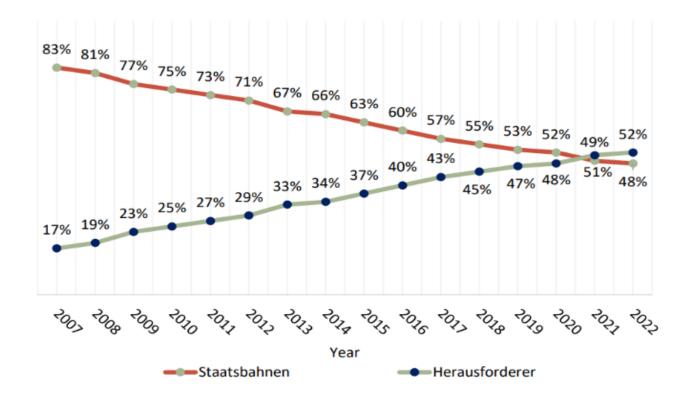
- Sufficient transport capacity, 750m trains, P400 profile
- Punctuality, reliability
- Flexibility in the event of market volatility
- Competitive price level
- Choice of providers, pressure on price/performance
- Sustainable freight railways
- No distortion of competition between Incumbants and Challengers
- Fair allocation of external costs
- Fair infrastructure costs (TAC/ toll))

Initiatives on EU Regulation



O Functioning competition on the railways

Wettbewerb im Schienengüterverkehr (EU 27)



- Strong competition between established national providers and "challengers" in the European rail freight market
- The trend over the last 15 years has been towards greater diversification of the market, with "challengers" taking over the state railroads in their home markets in 2021
- "Challengers" particularly strong in block train markets such as intermodal transport

-O 4. Chances



EU – Green Deal



Abbildung 1: Entwicklung alpenquerender Guterverkenr auf der Strasse

Verlagerungspolitik CH



Infrastructure investments



Market Growth Intermodal- und Logistics



New customers – logistical concepts

WE NEED A MODAL SHIFT FROM ROAD TO RAIL



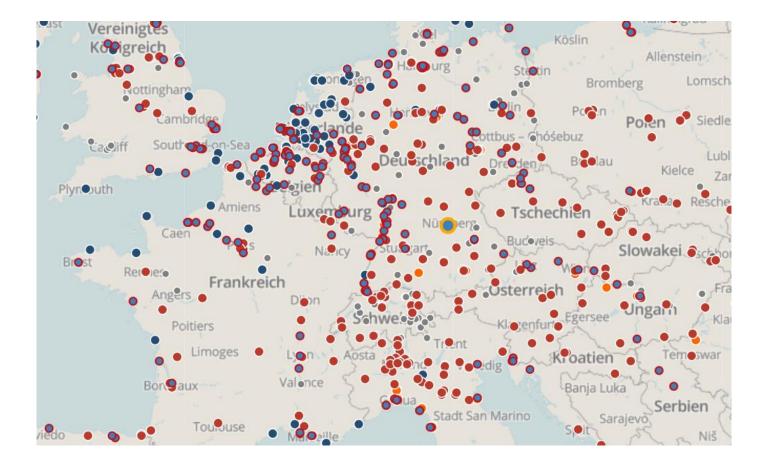
Climate friendly rail freight ECTA Annual Meeting Düsseldorf,14.11.2024

-• Infrastructure DB on massive investment plan

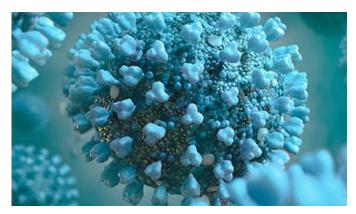
- Massive construction sites planned on the German network until 2035 with full closure of main lines (Hochleistungskorridore)
- Construction sites are already overloading the system and increase system complexity.
- Alternative routes for today's traffic and its routespecific requirements challenging
- Important expansions to the rail network in Germany (Karlsruhe Basel) are currently running behind schedule.



-O Terminal infrastructure for Intermodal broad and developing



-O 5. Challenges 2015 - 2023



Covid 2020



Rastatt 2017/2024



Energy prices 2022



Accident Gotthard 2023



Legislation / vehicle authorisation (ERTMS)



Market volatility

-O Challenge: stabilisation and resilience

DE: Hochleistungsnetz / Korridorsanierung bis 2030



- Intensive planning jointly with infrastrcture managers to coordinate internationally the construction works
- New planning with partly longer transport times, more buffers and stabilisation on production
- Coordination of terminal capacities and opening times, wagon sets and joint transport plans with customers
- Pre-planning for rerouting in case of planned and unplanned route closures.

-O Challenge: rerouting is hard work and very costly

DE: Hochleistungsnetz / Korridorsanierung bis 2030



photo of a rerouted train during Riedbahn closure

- Rerouting especially via France can't be taken for granted
- Recent experience during Riedbahn closure shows: multi-annual planning, training of staff and cancellation of trains with severely reduced capacity
- Severe capacity restrictions looming in 2027 due to Korridorsanierung with many unanswered questions regarding capacity and rerouting

-O 6. Development of resilient and competitive RU

- Focus on optimisation of clear and optimised business model (e.g. corridor specialist)
- High productivity of personal and locomotive ressources, especially border crossing traction and longer and heavier trains (750m, 2000t)
- Build up resilience to react on planned and unplanned traffic interruptions and market volatility
- Customer orientation with one-stop shop, proactive customer information and capability to develop joint solutions
- Digitalisation (planning/disposition, track/trace, preventive maintenance, ERTMS)

-O 7. Conclusion

Performance quality of freight railroads and infrastructure

Functioning competition on the railways

Level Playing Field

- Regulation Ten-T and State Aid as well as nd and increased infrastructure investment positive
- Intensity of construction works and interruptions critical
- Competitive RU prepare for optimisation and resilience
- Challengers decisive for intermodal transport, fair competition towards incumbents important
- Subsidies (direct/indirect, TAC, SWL) to be implemented non discriminatory
- New weights & dimensions directive critical will increase competiveness of road.
- Indications on TAC in Germany (2025/2026) negative



Q Thank you!

BLS Cargo AG Bollwerk 27 CH-3001 Bern blscargo.ch Questions?