



VIIA – LORRY RAIL continues to expand its network and develop along the Atlantic corridor

As pioneer in rail motorways, VIIA is continuing to expand its network by opening a new line on the Atlantic coast, operated by its subsidiary Lorry Rail. Following the opening in May 2025 of the Mouguerre terminal built by Brittany Ferries, the first train left the Bettembourg terminal on 15 October and arrived at Mouguerre on Thursday 16 October. The official inauguration will take place in December.



A rapidly expanding service

Two round trips per week will be provided until 17 November, before increasing to four round trips per week. The mixed trains will be able to carry 24 semi-trailers in horizontal loading using Modalohr technology and 22 containers each, and will run on the Mouguerre–Narbonne–Bettembourg route, offering a competitive multimodal solution for many sectors of activity.

A strategic gateway to Northern Europe

This new line is part of a multi-customer train strategy, integrating traffic from south-western France, Portugal and Spain to serve the Benelux countries, Germany, Eastern Europe and Scandinavia. It facilitates cross-border traffic and finally opens up the Atlantic coast to rail motorways, a connection long awaited by the market.

A carbon-free and competitive solution

By reducing CO₂ emissions by more than 90% while ensuring the same efficiency and enhanced competitiveness, rail freight is a particularly relevant alternative to road transport over long







distances. Each semi-trailer transported on this rail freight service generates a saving of 1,424 kg of CO_2 .

A collaborative effort

The success of this new connection relies on the commitment of key partners: Brittany Ferries, Ambrogio and CFL Terminal for the terminals, Captrain for traction, Lorry Rail (train operator, a joint venture between VIIA and Chemins de Fer Luxembourgeois) and Lohr for Modalohr wagon technology. Together, they are enabling a new stage in the development of combined transport in Europe.

"With this new link, Rail Logistics Europe, through VIIA - Lorry Rail, is demonstrating that the rail motorway is a suitable solution for reducing road congestion and offering transporters an environmentally friendly and competitive alternative for long distances. This rail motorway was eagerly awaited and has come about thanks to the collective efforts of all the partners: Brittany Ferries, Captrain, Lohr and CFL" said Bénédicte Colin, Chairwoman of VIIA.

« Brittany Ferries is proud to welcome VIIA-Lorry Rail to its multimodal platform in Mouguerre, working alongside to decarbonise the transport sector in Nouvelle Aquitaine and France, with immediate benefits for the Bayonne and Bordeaux areas. From the Iberian Peninsula to Northern Europe, VIIA-Lory Rail is paving the way for more virtuous and eco-responsible trade. I now know how difficult it is to set up such a project and I have only one word to say: well done!" Jean-Marc Roué, President of Brittany Ferries.

ABOUT RAIL LOGISTICS EUROPE GROUP

The Rail Logistics Europe group is the SNCF Group entity dedicated to logistics and rail freight transport. By creating synergies between the group's six companies - Hexafret, Captrain, VIIA, Naviland Cargo, Forwardis and Technis - Rail Logistics Europe offers its customers a range of end-to-end services and customised solutions through its four business lines: rail operator, combined transport operator, rail motorway operator and freight forwarder. With 9,000 employees, Rail Logistics Europe, the leader in rail logistics in France and Europe, is able to offer innovative, reliable and sustainable solutions in France and internationally to meet French and European decarbonisation challenges. Find all the information you need at https://rle-group.com.

ABOUT VIIA - LORRY RAIL

VIIA-Lorry Rail is the leader in rail motorways.

Having opened the Mediterranean coast in 2006 with the Bettembourg <> Le Boulou rail motorway line, VIIA-Lorry Rail now offers 27 round trips per week. As a veritable conveyor belt for logistics between the Iberian Peninsula and Northern and Eastern Europe, the company has helped to avoid 144,626,919 kg of CO₂ emissions in 2024.