

The second FGC Smart Train Day fosters cooperation and information exchange in the rail sector

- The day's sessions concentrated on highlighting the fundamental role of the best technology placed at the service of users and operators in the rail sector.
- FGC organised this second one-day conference with a view to consolidating it as the benchmark event for knowledge exchange in southern Europe.

Barcelona, 5th June 2014

Over a hundred people took part in the second Smart Train Day, the one-day conference devoted to the implementation of the "smart" concept in the field of rail transport. It was organised for the second year running by Ferrocarrils de la Generalitat de Catalunya, this year in cooperation with Railgrup and as part of the Saló Internacional de la Logística i la Manutenció (SIL, the International Logistics and Material Handling Exhibition).

The event was opened by the director general of transport and mobility in the government of Catalonia, Pere Padrosa, the director general of the International Logistics and Material Handling Exhibition, Blanca Sorigué, and the chairman of FGC, Enric Ticó. It discussed the role of applied technology in infrastructure in the rail sector and dealt with different rail experiences placed at the service of users and operators, with the aim of achieving smart rail management through the implementation of technology and innovation.

The FGC chairman, Enric Ticó, stressed the need to cooperate and exchange knowledge with a view to the future, in order to consolidate the rail sector, of key importance to the country's economic recovery. Likewise, the Catalan government's director general of transport and mobility, Pere Padrosa, highlighted the importance of mobility as a wealth-generating factor, and of technological progress as the key to making it work.

At the first Smart Train Day session, the operations manager of the technology companies in the Villar Mir and OHL groups, César Quintana, concentrated on explaining the importance of new technology applied to rail infrastructures, stressing the new role of technology as an indispensable tool in decision-making and the need to unify information handling, seeking cooperative environments.



The second session of the day, devoted to describing different smart rail experiences seen from the point of view of business opportunities, featured the Indra European infrastructure development engineer Jordi Rodríguez, who outlined the different projects based on “smart” systems his company has under way. According to Rodríguez, technology development is fundamental in pursuing energy efficiency and achieving more sustainable cities, all of this placing people at the centre of technology development by giving them a role.

In the same session, the innovation manager at Correus i Telègrafs, Jordi Escruela, described the latest developments in the application of technology to his postal services and products, highlighting the installation of smart posting and pick-up points at stations.

Technological progress was also the focus of the presentations in the third session of the day, which described initiatives in the implementation of new technology to improve efficiency of service on the railway, such as for example the joint development of artificial intelligence by FGC and the firm Awaait or the new system of incident alarms from Laforja Sistemes, supported by information panels which receive data from radio signals broadcasting information on news of general interest and on the status of train services in real time.

Further information about the event, the speakers and the presentations at www.smarttrainday.cat.