



# **8th Florence Rail Forum**

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**Rolling stock: how does regulation influence  
asset renewal and  
investment in rolling stock?**

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# Introduction

## The Regulatory Framework

- **Post WWII most railways in Europe publicly owned**
- **Regulation historically national and between the state railways (UIC and the RIV and RIC rules for operation of freight and passenger rolling stock)**
- **Rail seen by EU as a key European strategic area resulting in the landmark Directive 440/91, four “railway packages” and detailed EU wide rules on interoperability**





# Introduction

## The Regulatory Framework

- **Little focus in the past on finance**
- **Eurofima established in 1956 as multinational funding agency for state railways, by private contract, which otherwise were funded by cash flow, state loans or grants**
- **Pre 1996 little private finance for rolling stock in Europe (mainly for freight wagons)**





# Introduction

## The Regulatory Framework

- **UK rail privatisation in 1996 leading to establishment of leasing models for passenger rolling stock**
- **Gradually as other franchise and private operator models emerge, attention needs to be paid to international legal and regulatory framework for finance of rolling stock – but essentially there is none... until now**





# The Luxembourg Protocol

## What is it?

- **Protocol to the 2001 Cape Town Convention on international interests in mobile equipment**
- **Specific to railway rolling stock**
- **Signed in Luxembourg in 2007**
- **Not yet in force but EU and some EU member state ratifications pending**





# The Luxembourg Protocol

## What does it do?

- **Provides a global system for recognition and registration of security interests in rolling stock, thereby:**
  - **Reducing risks and costs of financing rolling stock**
  - **Resolving cross border security and conflict of laws issues**
  - **Facilitating operating and finance leasing and other private sector finance**





# The Luxembourg Protocol

## How it works

- **Protecting creditor (and debtor/lessee) rights**
- **Application of the Protocol**
  - **All rolling stock (broadly defined)**
  - **Applies to security under leases, loans and conditional sales**
  - **By reference to debtor/lessee location**





# The Luxembourg Protocol

## Special considerations

- **Unique identification of rolling stock – for the first time**
- **Insolvency – balancing the interests of the creditors and debtors**
- **Public Service Issues**







# The Luxembourg Protocol

## Conclusions

- **The Protocol provides a new pragmatic global regulatory framework which will facilitate more and cheaper private sector investment in the railways**
- **It will lower barriers to entry to private operators**
- **In turn stimulating a more competitive and dynamic industry**

