

# Inland transport sector perspective, WP.24 Intermodal transport and logistics

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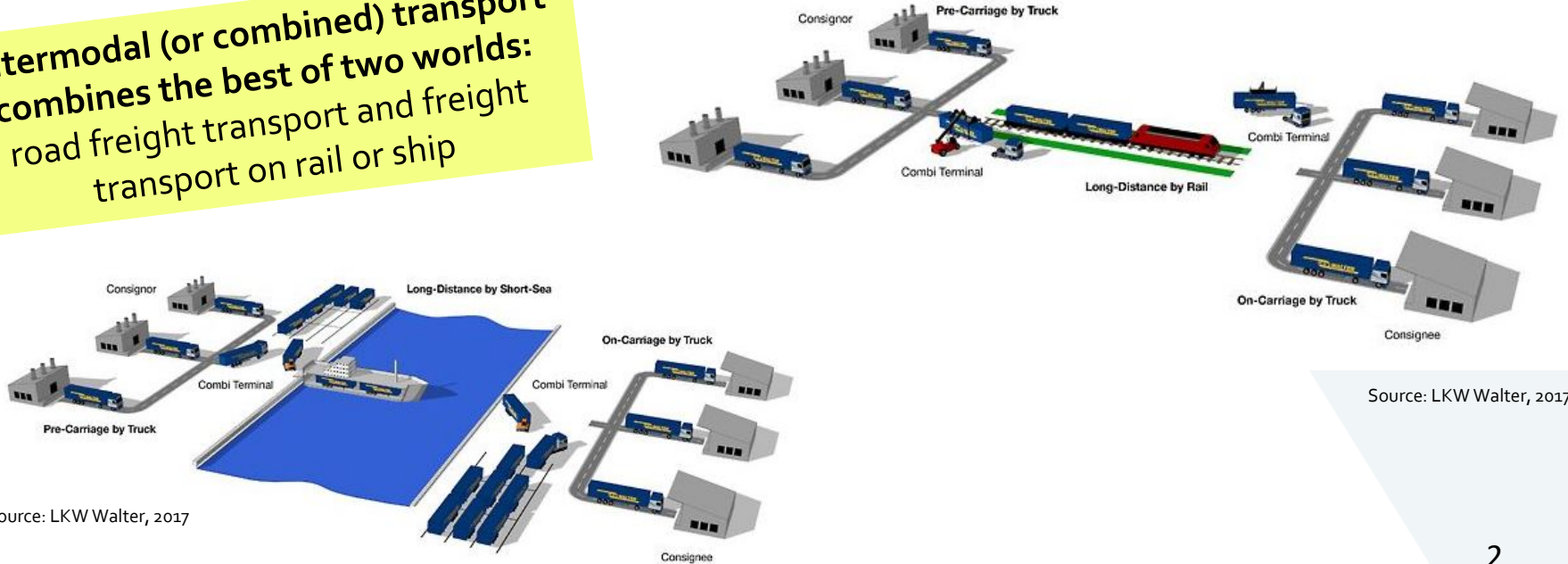
Directorate General II – Mobility

Department II.5 – Goods Transport

29<sup>th</sup> June 2021

## WP.24 Intermodal transport and logistics

Intermodal (or combined) transport combines the best of two worlds: road freight transport and freight transport on rail or ship



Source: LKW Walter, 2017

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## Main effects of COVID-19 on Intermodal and Combined Transport (CT):

- COVID-19 impacted both transport operations as well as transport infrastructure (delay of construction works)
- road freight transport suffered especially in the beginning from newly implemented border controls, but recovered with the help of facilitating cross-border measures
- rail freight transport and CT appeared to suffer less (due to less human interactions for moving freight and unexpected availability of attractive train slots from passenger transport)
- CT gained a bigger share of the market for intercontinental Euro-Asian transport operations than before

## Main lessons learned from COVID-19 in Intermodal and Combined Transport (CT):

- transport networks are not sufficiently integrated
  - need to increase data exchange (digitalization)
  - need to foster a reduction of human interaction in transport (automatisation)
- to achieve a more sustainable transport system, recovery measures should help create favorable conditions for intermodal transport
- COVID-19 raised questions about the suitability of complex and long supply chains; more consumption of regional products could reduce transport intensity in a longer term

## WP.24 - Resolution

### on strengthening intermodal freight transport

- Invites ECE-member states to **accede to AGTC Agreement and/or Protocol** if they have not already done so
- Encourages contracting parties to **strengthen the implementation** of these instruments
- Encourages contracting parties to **identify a core intermodal network** in both instruments
- Requests the contracting parties to **work on data interoperability** for improved transparency and network integration
- Proposes that governments **consider voluntary targets for intermodal transport market shares**
- Encourages WP.24 to help **accelerate automation** in intermodal transport (handbook with best practices)
- Invites WP.24 to consider **supporting collaborative networks** for flexible transport planning processes
- Suggests WP.24 to **support transport documents digitalization efforts**

# Thank you!

Republic of Austria

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