

Position Paper

Brussels, 17 October 2017

The use of SAIT in the framework of JNS

1. Introduction

In 2014 the Joint Network Secretariat (JNS) was successfully set up by the Agency in order to

- identify urgent and non-urgent issues,
- organize the exchange of opinions and solutions amongst railway actors and
- improve communication within and between the Networks.

The JNS normal and urgent procedure have already been successfully undertaken and delivered exploitable and beneficial results for the European railway sector.

The work of Joint Network Secretariat led to coordinated measures on European level and effective approach for controlling risks.

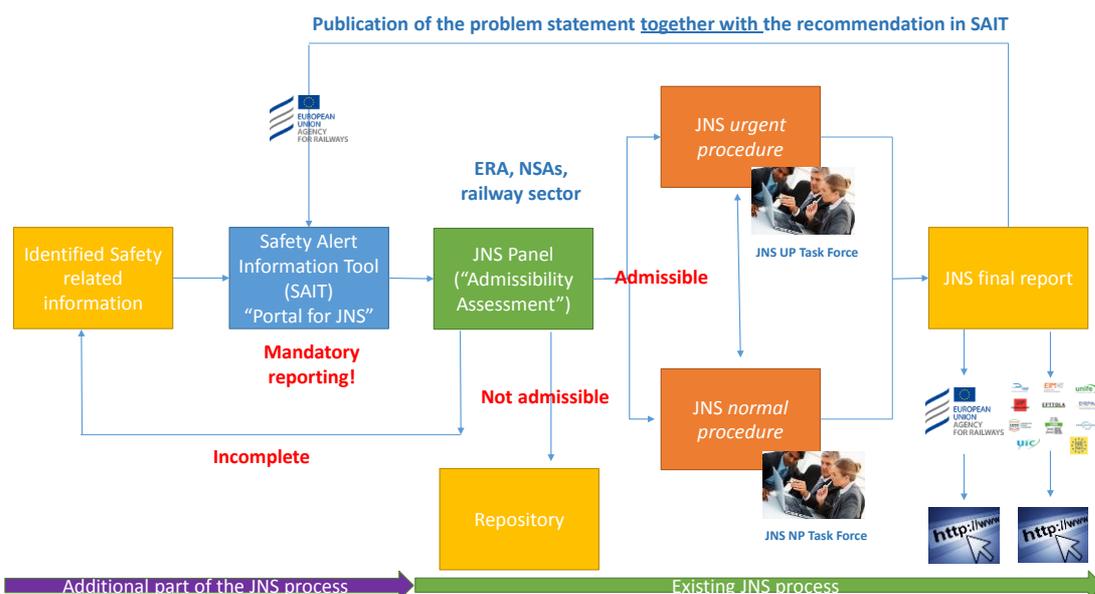
2. Linking SAIT and JNS

CER believes that the new Safety Alert and Information tool (SAIT), developed by the European Union Agency for Railways, shall become the (electronic) portal for the JNS work.

The mandatory reporting in SAIT and automatic forwarding to JNS will ensure

- an efficient, fast, broad and transparent exchange of safety related information
- a subsequent handling of the aforesaid issues without delays
- a further improvement of coordinated measures at European level and effective approach for controlling risks

3. SAIT as an element of JNS – the workflow



4. Summary

CER supports the integration of SAIT, and thus its use in a new context, into the JNS process as mandatory reporting tool. JNS & SAIT and the full integration of all concerned parties and bodies into the new process will lead to creating a positive and constructive safety culture in Europe. The SAIT Terms of Use and Guidance have to be adapted accordingly.

CER believes that the admissibility criteria (in future applicable for all entries in the SAIT tool) are already sufficiently described in the process documents "Joint Network Secretariat Normal Procedure" and "Joint Network Secretariat Urgent Procedure" published by the Agency in 2014.

CER recommends to reflect upon the composition of the JNS Panel, assessing the admissibility, in order to ensure a timely and comprehensive assessment to an utmost extent at any time.

CER believes that JNS & SAIT will facilitate the timely sharing of information on significant risks, supporting other actors to take immediate action to avoid accidents.

About CER

The Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER) brings together more than 70 railway undertakings, their national associations as well as infrastructure managers and vehicle leasing companies. The membership is made up of long-established bodies, new entrants and both private and public enterprises, representing 73% of the rail network length, 80% of the rail freight business and about 96% of rail passenger operations in EU, EFTA and EU accession countries. CER represents the interests of its members towards EU policy makers and transport stakeholders, advocating rail as the backbone of a competitive and sustainable transport system in Europe. For more information, visit www.cer.be or follow us via Twitter at @CER_railways.

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