Transalpine Transport Architects (TRANSITECTS)

Author: Matthias Wagner, EURAC research, matthias.wagner@eurac.edu

Affiliation and contact address:
Matthias Wagner , Institute for Regional Development and Location Management, EURAC research, Viale Druso 1, I-39100 Bolzano, Phone: +39 0471 055 322

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Abstract body:
TRANSITECTS develops and implements attractive transport and logistic rail products and systems to disburden traffic bottlenecks in the Alps and mitigate related negative effects of traffic. The initiative is co-financed by EU funds within the ETC Alpine Space program. Building on the experience of the predecessing project “AlpFRail”, numerous partners from Austria, Germany, Italy and Slovenia work together to promote the rail attractiveness for transalpine freight transport, making the rail network more accessible to the logistics market and thus mitigate the negative effects of road freight transport in the Alpine Space. During the project competitive and sustainable alternatives to road transport will be defined and later implemented. TRANSITECTS aims at a modal shift from road to rail, thereby contributing to relieve the environment along major Alpine transit corridors. The Institute for Regional Development and Location Management at the European Academy of Bolzano will identify and assess environmental impacts for each developed pilot project. Apart from assessing the effects on the Modal Split in transalpine freight transport, the evaluation of the associated emission reduction (e.g nitrogen oxides and carbon oxides as well as particulate matter) plays a major role in the evaluation. For this, an environmental model will be developed taking into account relevant emission parameters. This includes defining common parameters and criteria to evaluate emissions and other environmental values. For each pilot project the benefits in terms of reduction of gases and other air pollutant emissions will be estimated. In addition, noise parameters will be assessed in order to evaluate the impacts on traffic noise disturbance. These parameters will help assessing the sustainability of each pilot rail connection with regard to its environmental effects. Overall, TRANSITECTS will contribute to accomplish a change in the transport sector towards a greater environmental sustainability.