

The IGC met on 8 December 2016 in London and discussed the following topics.

Cooperation with the UK and French regulators

The IGC agreed a document which sets out the cooperation arrangements with the two national regulators, ARAFER and ORR, and also identifies its economic responsibilities following the coming into effect on 15 June 2016 of the binational regulation transferring rail regulation competence.

Authorisation of new Velaro

The IGC recorded that on 18 November 2016 it had provided an additional authorisation allowing a new Velaro e320 / Class 374 (trainset 12 of 17) to be used in the Channel Tunnel. Further applications for the authorisation of trainsets 13 to 17 are expected to be submitted to the IGC by May 2017.

Channel Tunnel freight traffic

The IGC invited DB Cargo to participate in a discussion about obstacles to increasing freight traffic through the tunnel. This followed on from a separate discussion with a wider group of freight operators which followed the November 17th Safety Authority meeting. The IGC was keen to understand if there was any proactive action it could take to improve matters for freight operators. After an informative discussion it was noted that both governments are committed to address the issue of increasing freight traffic through the Channel Tunnel and that this issue should remain on future IGC agendas to maintain collective focus.

Eurotunnel's 2018 Network Statement

The IGC advised Eurotunnel that it would be providing comments on the 2018 Network Statement consultation after the meeting. Those comments can be found [here](#).

Follow-up to fire and catenary incidents of January 2015

The IGC secretariats reported on the progress that has been made towards delivering the recommendations set out in the independent investigation report on the management of disruption in the Channel Tunnel. This work will continue to be monitored through the Safety Authority and its working groups.

Performance Monitoring

Following on from one of the recommendations in the report, the IGC was advised that the first performance monitoring meeting between the Joint Economic Committee and Eurotunnel would take place in early 2017. An interim report would subsequently be provided to the IGC's February meeting.

New Eurotunnel HGC shuttle wagons

The IGC discussed with Eurotunnel the latest status of its request for authorisation of new shuttle wagons which it hoped would be approved early in the New Year.