Future Rail Mobile Communication System

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UIC "From GSM-R to FRMCS" Conference, Paris, 17-18 of May 2017

UIC Future Railways Mobile Communication Systems Project

UIC FRMCS Project was formally initiated by UIC in 2014, after 4 years of previous activities in this field.

 Provide a set of overall preconditions for the successor of GSM-R: User Requirements System architecture, interfacing with track side and on board equipment Frequency Spectrum Coordinated with stakeholders and partners 	Provide an appropriate replacement to EIRENE FRS: If possible 1-to-1 Based on User Requirements -Investigate current usage of GSM-R; delete functionalities if unused -Investigate future needs and add potential new functionalities
Project Scope	
studies for further improvement or opportunities related to: •Sharing infrastructure, spectrum or other resources •.Usage of commercial non-specific equipment •User applications;	Migration Strategy: •Operational Impact •Migration Spectrum needs •Network model •Interoperability •Flexible FRMCS implementation plans

2017 – UIC FRMCS Project becomes GLOBAL



2009

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Why Change?

GSM-R obsolescence.

- Railway Operational Communications Industry Group (ROC IG) assured that GSM-R will be supported at least up to 2030.
 - **Planned GSM-R subsystems renewals** (due to e.g. equipment obsolescence or ETCS introduction).
- For railways, these are significant investments. The expectation for upgrades nominal life is 5-10 years. Therefore in the solution decision stage, it is expected to consider different options, including assessment for different technologies, for business or future proof reasons.
- ETCS radio bearer change in the middle of the ETCS expected life span will also impact the on-board EDOR change, which is very painful and expensive for the RU's.
 - Railways mobile communications critical and business needs.
- Railways have an increasing need for own wireless communications, from M2Ms to data in isolated places. Real Time information is a necessity, and will be the basis of the Connected Infrastructure. Many business aspects like maintenance are being automated with mobile handsets/tablets usage continuously increasing.

FRMCS Project organisation

UIC Governance structure of currently two Working Groups (WG) and one Associated Working Group (UGFA) :



Interfaced with the UIC Platforms, ERIG, ERA, ETSI TC RT, stakeholders and partners.

From 3GPP Standardization to equipment availability Timelines



FRMCS Integrated Plan



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High Level Integrated Plan

Functionalities

- Assess potential new Sector needs (URS)
- 59 Use Cases planned to be transferred to 3GPP. Finalize transfer of Use Cases with R16 (first 20 use cases transferred to R15). Keep Use Cases aligned with needs of the Sector
- Prepare and deliver FRMCS FRS v 1.0
- Architecture
 - Finalize Architecture model (On Board included)
 - Investigate Sharing and Roaming synergies with MNOs and Public Safety (for e.g. fall back or regional lines)
 - Support Migration Plan
 - Start SRS
 - Continue Technologies Assessment
- Frequencies
 - Obtain harmonized, dedicated spectrum for critical applications
 - Discuss/obtain spectrum for train performance
 - Include migration needs
 - Include the frequencies allocated to FRMCS in 3GPP

FRMCS Challenges



Risks & Opportunities

Timetable

European roll out planning diversity - ETCS Deployment, GSM-R renewals, planning periods.

Frequencies

At minimum train operation frequencies must be available. Migration urgently requires frequencies for both systems. Political willingness is needed.

Financial Replacing GSM-R, possibly including

updating the access layer backhaul.

FRMCS is complex, but will deliver benefits

FRMCS

Connectivity

FRMCS will provide seamless connectivity between train and the Intelligent infrastructure; this will deliver operational improvements, and will deliver the intelligent infrastructure

Infrastructure Re-Use GSM-R infrastructure (masts, Fiber, Buildings, Transmission, Power Supply, know how) will cover a considerable part of the needs.

Economy of Scale

FRMCS equipment envisages to be of COTS type. Synergies are possible with other mission critical systems, e.g. Urban Transport

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Way Forward

- UIC FRMCS project continues, at Global Level. This will make possible access to enhanced innovation, and improve the system economy of scale. FRMCS shall:
- Continue the work with 3GPP and with CEPT WG FM / ECC.
- Deliver the Functional Requirements Specification v1.0
- Support ETCS bearer flexibility, so that the radio system change shall not impact ETCS.
- Continue at UIC and ETSI level the specification and standardization work for the system
- Start investigating the application layer
- Work on synergies with other stakeholders
- Propose a well documented Migration Concept
- Telecom importance within the Rail System is on a increasing trend.
- GSM-R obsolescence will become critical, and the FRMCS must cover the gap at latest the end of next decade.
- FRMCS is a game changer. It will improve the connectivity, and will enable the

intelligent infrastructure and connected trains. It will enable a Digital Railway!

Thank You for Your Attention

Questions?

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