



ZENITH ECLIPSE JOURNAL

RAIL FREIGHT

Every station matters.

A rail corridor starts with exact stations, accepted cargo and suitable equipment. We connect the commercial brief with operators, border interfaces and destination arrangements, so each handoff has a named responsibility and the proposed movement has a clear basis.

THE COVER STORY

**Name stations before
comparing rail routes.
Match cargo and
equipment at each handoff.
Link border documents
with final delivery.**

03

DEFINE THE SERVICE

Choose the option
that fits the brief.

04

AGREE THE CONTROLS

Read the evidence
and responsibilities.

06

CONNECT THE PLAN

Align milestones
and handoffs.

THE ZENITH ECLIPSE APPROACH

Start with the station pair.

Departure and arrival stations shape the operating plan. Cargo, equipment, border sequence and final access complete the enquiry before a corridor can be compared.



We review rail enquiries by station pair, cargo and receiving requirement. A city or country alone leaves important questions open. Share operator-recognised station names and codes, collection and delivery addresses, shipping dates and the parties responsible for loading and unloading.

Container and wagon movements need different acceptance checks. Operators confirm station capability, equipment suitability and corridor restrictions. Where networks meet, identify the intended interchange or gauge-change arrangement, its location and the party responsible for unit or cargo transfer and condition records.

Rail documents follow the route, participating carriers and applicable legal regime. CIM, SMGS or a common CIM/SMGS note cannot be assumed interchangeable everywhere. We connect the proposed document sequence with customs arrangements, cost responsibilities and confirmed destination handover in the written service scope.

IN THIS EDITION

- 03** Match cargo to the rail option
- 04** Put acceptance beside the route
- 05** Define the operating handoffs
- 06** Follow milestones and exceptions
- 07** Build the rail enquiry
- 08** Connect with our freight team

SERVICE OPTIONS

Match cargo to the rail option.

Equipment selection follows the cargo, corridor and station capability. Each option requires operator confirmation and a defined loading, transfer and receiving arrangement.



01 Container rail

For cargo moving in a transport unit, confirm container type, gross weight and loading plan with the corridor operators. Check terminals, interchange points and road legs together; acceptance on one leg does not confirm acceptance across the complete route.

02 Covered wagons

For cargo requiring enclosure, identify the wagon arrangement, package dimensions and loading or unloading method. The operator confirms suitability and station access. Agree responsibility for cargo protection, securing and equipment condition before the wagon is positioned at origin.

03 Open & specialist wagons

Open platforms, hoppers, tanks and other specialist wagons require cargo-specific review. Provide product identity, dimensions or compatibility information as relevant. Confirm equipment, cleaning evidence where required, loading restrictions and terminal approval with the responsible operators before confirming the movement.

04 Rail with road delivery

Connect the station movement with collection and destination trucking. Confirm road access, terminal release, unit return or transloading arrangements and the receiving appointment. Name the party coordinating the interface, while retaining each operator's acceptance and contractual responsibilities for its leg.

SERVICE CONTROL GUIDE

Put acceptance beside the route.

A comparable rail proposal records the station pair, accepted cargo, equipment and document sequence. Confirm the evidence and responsibility attached to each control.



CONTROL	WHAT TO AGREE AND VERIFY
Stations & operators	Record recognised station names and codes, operating carriers and terminal contacts. Confirm handling capability, access and acceptance for the intended cargo; geographic proximity alone does not establish service availability.
Cargo & equipment	Provide package count, verified weights, dimensions and loading method. Obtain operator acceptance for the equipment and route, including loading-gauge or other restrictions relevant to the proposed cargo movement.
Consignment documents	Identify the governing rail regime and document issuer. Confirm CIM, SMGS or common CIM/SMGS use with participating carriers; a common note applies only to accepted participants and traffic axes.
Customs & borders	Agree customs representatives, declarations, advance information and border sequence. A rail consignment note does not replace every customs requirement. Check the applicable authorities and cargo-specific permissions before dispatch.
Transfer responsibility	Name the interchange location, transfer method and responsible operator. Record unit identifiers, seals and condition evidence where relevant, including how discrepancies and additional handling costs will be reported.
Quote & exclusions	Separate line-haul, terminal, border and road charges. State currency, validity, assumptions and excluded costs. Define storage, waiting or equipment charges by the applicable operator terms and agreed responsibility.

Accepted cargo. Defined route. Named responsibilities.

SOURCE READING
OTIF · COTIF / CIM scope
CIT · CIM/SMGS participating routes
WCO · Railway customs guidance

OPERATING INTERFACES

Define the operating handoffs.

Treat station loading, network interchange and destination release as separate acceptance points, each with the required records and responsible contacts.

01

CARGO TO ACCEPTED EQUIPMENT

Origin loading

Confirm equipment positioning, station or siding access and the approved loading party. Keep package, wagon or container identifiers aligned with the cargo record. Resolve weight, condition or document discrepancies before the responsible operator releases the movement.

02

NETWORK TO NETWORK

Border & gauge interface

Confirm whether the route uses unit transfer, wagon exchange, bogie exchange or cargo transloading. The method depends on the network and operators. Name the transfer location, condition evidence, customs sequence and party responsible for each approved interface.

03

STATION TO RECEIVING SITE

Destination release

Connect arrival advice, customs release and terminal collection with the consignee's receiving arrangements. Agree unloading, road delivery and equipment return where applicable. Capture the handover record and any discrepancy through the named operator and receiving contacts.

Define each change of responsibility.

The station-to-station movement and the door delivery may involve different contracts and operators. Record their boundaries before dispatch. Our coordination brief brings those interfaces together. Equipment and operational approvals remain with the responsible carriers, terminals and authorities.

DELIVERY & EXCEPTIONS

Follow milestones and exceptions.

Use agreed event definitions to connect operator updates with the consignee's plan. Departure positions, border processing and arrival estimates may change.

STATIONS

ACCEPT

INTERCHANGE

DELIVER

Set reporting contacts and evidence for booking, loading, departure, interchange, customs release and destination handover. Distinguish an estimate from a confirmed event, and define who authorises a revised route or additional service.

01 Confirm before movement

Check booking acceptance, equipment availability, loading readiness and document approval. For dangerous goods, confirm the applicable rail, national and operator requirements; RID is relevant only within its applicable scope.

02 Report the interface

Use wagon or container identifiers with station, border and interchange updates. Agree update frequency and available evidence. A reported position or estimated arrival does not establish an uninterrupted tracking service.

03 Resolve the exception

Report delays, missing documents, transfer discrepancies or receiving changes through the named contacts. Confirm revised arrangements and cost responsibility in writing before additional services, subject to carrier and authority acceptance.

SOURCE READING

[OTIF · RID and its applicable scope](#)

THE ENQUIRY WORKSHEET

Build your rail-freight enquiry.

Share these eight details so our freight team can review the proposed corridor, evidence requirements and boundaries of the rail service.

YOUR RAIL FREIGHT ENQUIRY / EIGHT DETAILS

- ☐ Departure and arrival stations, operator-recognised codes, and collection or delivery addresses.
- ☐ Cargo description, commodity identity, package count, dimensions and verified gross weights.
- ☐ Requested container or wagon arrangement, loading method and unloading responsibility.
- ☐ Cargo readiness, requested departure period, delivery need and receiving restrictions.
- ☐ Border sequence, intended corridor, customs representatives and document requirements.
- ☐ Interchange or gauge-change needs, transfer responsibilities and required condition evidence.
- ☐ Commercial terms, charge scope, insurance arrangements and approved escalation contacts.
- ☐ Dangerous-goods or special-cargo declarations and operator acceptance requirements, where applicable.

Still defining the service scope?

Attach the cargo schedule and relevant loading information, with current revisions identified. State whether you need station-to-station carriage, road interfaces or a wider door delivery scope. Send the enquiry to trans@zenitheclipse.com. We will review the proposed movement and confirm the applicable operator, document, acceptance and schedule conditions in writing.

SEND YOUR RAIL FREIGHT REQUIREMENTS



ZENITH ECLIPSE
CO

YOUR NEXT SERVICE ENQUIRY

Every station.
Every handoff.

Let's connect
the details.

Share the station pair, cargo record, equipment requirement and delivery need. Our freight team will review your rail enquiry and connect the proposed corridor with document requirements, interchange arrangements and the receiving plan.

SERVICE ENQUIRIES

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EXPLORE THE SERVICE

zenitheclipse.com

Scan for the service scope
and enquiry options.



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Confirm written scope, operator responsibilities, cargo acceptance and schedule before dispatch. Imagery provides representative context and does not depict Zenith Eclipse-owned rail equipment or facilities.