# Rail noise reduction – Impact Assessment support study

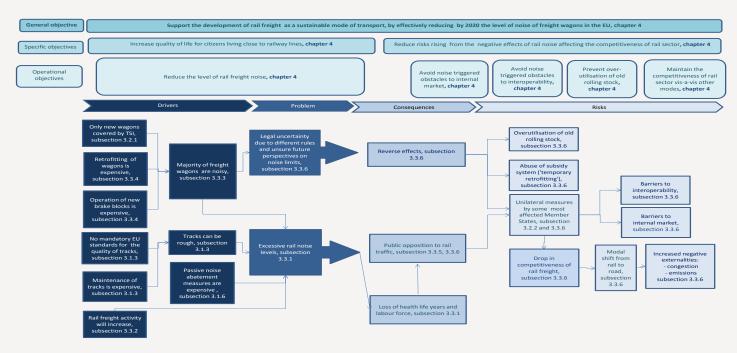


# Headings

- > The problem of rail noise
- > Some possible solutions
- > Analysis
  - > Methods
  - > Data
- > Next steps



# The problem of rail noise





# How big is the problem?

#### External costs of freight transport, Euro per 1,000 tkm, EU28

	Road freight	Rail freight	
Accidents	18.0	0.2	
Noise	2.7	1.1	
Climate costs	2.8	0.2	
Pollutants	8.9	1.2	



# Some possible solutions – technical solutions

Measure	Avoided source of noise	Impact (local, network	Effect
		wide)	
K-blocks	Rolling noise	Network wide	Up to 8 dB(A) - 10 dB(A)
LL-blocks	Rolling noise	Network wide	7 dB(A) - 10 dB(A)
General grinding of bad	Rolling noise	Local	10 - 12 dB(A) (up to 20 dB(A) at very bad
track			tracks)
Special acoustic grinding	Rolling noise	Local	1 – 4 dB(A) (depending on local rail
			roughness conditions), mostly around 2
			dB(A) attended
Disk brakes	Rolling noise	Network wide	10 dB(A)
Wheel-tuned absorbers	Wheel noise	Network wide	Uncertain
Bogie Shrouds together	Wheel noise	Local	8 - 10 dB(A)
with low height barriers			
Rail dampers	Rail noise	Local	Uncertain
Slab tracks	Rail noise	Local	5 dB(A)
Rail pads	Rail noise	Local	3 - 4 dB(A)
Different measures to	Squeal noise	Local	Up to 20 dB(A) depending on local conditions
lower squeal noise			
Barriers 2 meters high	All sources	Local	5-10 dB(A)
Barriers 3 – 4 meters	All sources	Local	10-15 dB(A)
high			
Housing insulation	All sources	In house only	10 - 30 dB(A)



### Policy measures

- > Analysed solution paths
  - Legal measures
    - > TSI requirements
    - Noise ceilings
    - Mandatory track maintenance
    - > Environmental health approach
  - Market measures
    - > Subsidies
    - Noise differentiated track access charges (NDTAC)



### **Analysis**

- > Impacts
  - > Effectiveness
    - Reducing noise (quantitative analysis)
    - > Guarding internal market
    - Guarding interoperability of the rail network
    - > Preventing over-utilization of old wagon stock
    - Guarding competitiveness of rail freight transport (quantitative)
  - > Administrative feasibility and cost
  - Coherence with other EU policies



#### Methods and data

- > Literature review
  - Costs of measures
  - > Effects of measures
- > Data
  - > Wagon fleet data
  - > Cross price elasticities
  - > Effect data
  - > Cost data



#### Next steps

- > Early summer, final report delivered to DG MOVE
- > Currently, DG MOVE is completing its impact assessment paper
- > Expected Commission communication on rail noise 2015



## The end

Thank you

