



Start-up Membership at Forum Train Europe

Overview about Terms and Conditions

Forum Train Europe: Who we are and what we do

FTE is **the** European platform for Railway Undertakings for Capacity Management and Timetabling.

We define our mission around the following points:

- We are the think tank in the field of capacity management and timetable planning by promoting exchange among the middle managers and professionals of our members.
- We promote European-wide standardization of processes and tools and help to increase the competitiveness of rail in intermodal comparison by supporting RUs in the relevant working groups and projects and doing a targeted stakeholder management.
- We provide and develop the platforms enabling RUs to coordinate European train services. Our core business encompasses the design, harmonization and agreement of cross-border timetables and train compositions.
- We promote the voice of RUs towards other European organisms involved in capacity management by aligning RU-opinions and bringing consolidated positions into projects and to key stakeholders.

Traditionally, our membership fee structure, which was tied to a company's size, catered well to established companies. However, this posed a significant challenge for startups that may not yet have the requisite financial metrics or stable turnovers, thus making it less appealing for them to become a member in the FTE community. In response to this, the FTE Plenary Assembly in June 2023 decided to specifically support new start-ups with a special **start-up membership fee**. This should facilitate new companies to become part of the RU community offering them a welcoming and supportive environment.

Forum Train Europe is a non-profit organisation and exempt from value-added tax.

Start-up Membership Criteria

To qualify for the start-up membership, certain criteria must be met:

- less than 10 years of operation
- less than 5,000,000 EUR turnover
- less than 150 employees
- no previous FTE membership
- not a subsidiary of an existing member

Membership Duration: Start-up membership will be granted for a period of two years, following from the year of admission.

Automatic Transition: After two years, start-up status will automatically change to normal membership unless the start-up demonstrates that it is not yet operating trains or has been running trains for less than a year. In such cases, start-up status may be extended.

Benefits

The start-up membership is designed to be more accessible and also provides the benefits of any FTE member.

This will grant you full access to all the benefits FTE provides to its members, such as

- participation at our conferences FTE A, B, C and D;
- participation in Working Groups and Commissions;
- participation and voting right (one vote) at the Plenary Assembly (PA);
- full access to the FTE network and to output of the FTE groups, e.g. analysis of legal framework;
- including your interests in the representation of FTE members in dealings with infrastructure managers, pan-European organisations and international authorities.

Pricing

The pricing structure is as follows (as of September 2023):

Flat Fee: A flat fee of 0.2% of the annual FTE budget, currently set at CHF 3,000 per full calendar year (for the first year partial and proportional depending on moment of accession).

The fee depends on the FTE budget, which is voted annually by the FTE Plenary Assembly in which you will be able to participate.

Transition to Normal Membership: Once your start-up status expires, your membership fee will be adjusted according to your company's size, aligning with FTEs normal membership fee structure.

Join the FTE Community

We invite start-ups and emerging RUs to take advantage of this new opportunity to join the FTE community. By becoming a start-up member, you not only gain access to valuable resources, conferences, and networking opportunities but also play a vital role in shaping the future of the railway industry.

You can familiarize yourself with the statutes of FTE and find the application form at <https://www.forumtraineurope.eu/services/downloads>

To apply for start-up membership or to learn more about the criteria, benefits, and application process, please visit our website or contact us at info@forumtraineurope.eu.

The FTE community builds on innovation, collaboration, and inclusivity within the railway undertaking and service provider industry. Join FTE to drive the future of your railway undertaking as part of the European railway undertaking community.

Application for Membership of the Forum Train Europe FTE

Our undertaking hereby applies to join the Forum Train Europe FTE as a member.

Please to mark with a cross	
	We are a railway undertaking (RU) or an applicant for the allocation of rail capacity in trans-national rail traffic and with legal personality.
	We are a national rail company or a service provider for international rail traffic wanting to adjust its services to international timetables and with legal personality.

	Participation in activities for passenger traffics
	Participation in activities for freight traffics

	Application as start-up member (eligibility to be provided)
	Application as association member

Favoured beginning of membership (DD.MM.YYYY)	
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Statutes

	We have taken note of the Statutes of the FTE and accept their provisions.
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Headquarters address for the undertaking

Name of the undertaking (+ legal form of the company)	
Abbreviation	
Street	
ZIP Code	
City	
Country	
Telephone	
Fax	
e-Mail	
Homepage	http://www.

Address of the person responsible for liaison with the FTE

Name	Ms	Mr	
First Name			
Street			
ZIP Code			
City			
Country			
Telephone			
Fax			
e-Mail			

Address of the department to which the account for the FTE subscription should be sent

Name of the undertaking (+ legal form of the company)			
Name	Ms	Mr	
First Name			
Street			
ZIP Code			
City			
Country			
Telephone			
Fax			
e-Mail			

Legal Signature

Place	
Date	
Signature	