



# Call for Trainees

by Forum Train Europe and ČD Cargo

## Who We Are?



Organising the European Timetable Conferences for nearly 150 years, Forum Train Europe is the European platform for Railway Undertakings (RUs) and service companies for Capacity Management and Timetabling. FTE's mission is to serve as the think tank and network service provider in these areas. The association promotes the European-wide standardisation of processes and tools, develops the future management of capacity on the whole continent and by this helps to increase the competitiveness of rail. At present, the association has 86 members in 30 European countries, doing business in both passenger and freight markets, ČD Cargo being one of them.



Being one of the successors of the Czechoslovak State Railways (1918), ČD Cargo has developed into one of the leading freight Railway Undertakings in Europe, having licenses in 7 European countries and providing logistics and forwarding services in many others. Almost 6000 employees are taking care of the planning and dispatching of 750 locomotives with almost 23,000 wagons, as well as the operation of their own freight terminals and service facilities.

## Traineeship offer

We invite a university student/graduate to experience a unique journey for several months and by this boost her/his career. We aim to pass you invaluable insights and hands-on experience in both operational and strategic environments already at the starting level, making it a very unique choice for traineeship in Europe.

At ČD Cargo, you will learn about the daily business aspects of rail freight transport and support the staff in operation tasks.

At Forum Train Europe, you will get an understanding of the bigger picture of railways, working on strategic projects aimed at improving the railway transport landscape in Europe.

The structure of your traineeship, including the time spent at each organisation, will be mutually agreed upon upfront, ensuring a tailored experience that suits your interests and career goals as well as the availabilities of the hosting organisations. This dual exposure will not only enhance your soft skills but also provide a solid foundation in the railway business.



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Czech Republic  
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## What to expect?

Your primary placement will be in Prague at the headquarters of ČD Cargo. However, you may as well expect some weeks spent on tasks at the FTE office, located in the Swiss city of Bern, and potentially on international business trips to attend working groups and or support staff of one of ČD Cargo's local subsidiaries.

Nevertheless, the exact tasks and traineeship program strongly depend on your capabilities, profile and ongoing projects within FTE and ČD Cargo. In general, you may look forward to:

- Joining 1-2 projects as a project team member, working under supervision and individually;
- Engaging in meaningful tasks that contribute to the development of European standardisation and future capacity management processes and systems;
- Developing and refining your soft skills in an international business environment, interacting with representatives of Railway Undertakings and other stakeholders;
- Learning about the business at a leading rail freight operator in Europe;
- Participating in operational and strategic tasks at ČD Cargo, gaining insights into the logistics and management of rail freight services;
- Career advisory with the opportunity to understand the job content of different positions within railways;
- Opportunities for business trips throughout Europe (working on board of trains, even on very long distances 😊).

This traineeship is perfect for someone with a strong passion for railways and a high level of motivation to pursue a career in the railway sector. It offers a unique starting point for careers in railway businesses or international industry associations.

Currently, the sector experiences an increasing shortage of highly qualified staff. ČD Cargo and FTE would like to help you to find your way to our sector. You should not expect that you will stay afterwards at FTE or ČD Cargo, but we would be very pleased if you would successfully apply for a job with one of FTE members or in the railway system.

## Your profile

Are you interested in boosting your career with ČD Cargo and FTE? Would you like to find out if you would fit in? Doing the traineeship with us would require that you should be available 4-5 days per week for a couple of months.

We are seeking candidates who possess:

- High motivation and passion for railways
- Fluency in English (B2+)
- Proficiency in MS Office
- A general understanding of FTE mission and ongoing activities as well as a basic understanding of the railway sector

We consider as a plus when you:

- Already possess a bachelor's degree in railway engineering, transport economics or other studies with a minor in transport or a thesis on a relevant railway topic.
- Have outstanding language skills in another language of the EU, especially DE, CZ, SK, PL, HU, SI, and HR.
- Have an interest in one of the following topics:
  - Railway timetabling and capacity planning
  - Logistics and intermodal transport
  - Service Facilities and Freight Terminals
  - Communication and design

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If you have any questions or concerns, you may turn to [info@forumtraineurope.eu](mailto:info@forumtraineurope.eu).

### How to apply?

Before applying, please carefully read the information provided in the FTE-ČD Cargo Traineeship Offer Description available [here](#). This is an ongoing call, which means you can apply for the traineeship at any time of the year, by submitting your dossier to [info@forumtraineurope.eu](mailto:info@forumtraineurope.eu). The complete dossier shall include:

- CV: include information about accomplished thesis and relevant courses.
- Motivation letter: (up to 1 page) or motivation presentation.
- Preferred period of traineeship