

## ***„Best practice study regarding the access to sidings in European countries“***

Sidings are an essential element of railway infrastructure. However, in Germany there is currently no general overview of all available sidings from operators of service facilities.

The task is to analyze the access to sidings and peripheral facilities (e.g. shore power supply, water filling facility, ...) in service facilities in different European countries. The analysis should contain state-owned as well as private operators of service facilities with public railway infrastructure. The aim is to have an overview of how different operators of service facilities provide an overview of their sidings (incl. peripheral facilities), their availability as well as the booking process and charging system for them. The overview should include at least DB InfraGO AG as the largest German infrastructure manager (IM) and operators of service facilities in five other European countries.

Additionally, research shall be carried out for a chosen set of European countries whether cross-operator platforms for booking sidings (incl. peripheral facilities) exist. Based on best practices found during the analysis and research, a suggestion shall be concluded how sidings of different operators of service facilities could be integrated in a single platform.