

PRESS RELEASE

To celebrate EU Green Week 2021, ALLRAIL is proud to become a partner of the EU Startup Prize for Mobility

BRUSSELS, June 3rd 2021: In this current EU Green Week, ALLRAIL is proud to become a new partner of the 2021 “*European Startup Prize for mobility*”¹, which is competition backed by EU Parliament & EU Commission promoting more innovation in order to achieve sustainable mobility.

Rail still has less than 8% market share in European passenger transport. Finally it is time to reduce the cost of entry for startups so that they can introduce new concepts that will achieve modal shift to rail.

This week, it is EU Green Week 2021. Rail is responsible for just 0.4% of transport-related carbon emissions, making it one of the most sustainable transport modes. At the same time, entrepreneurs bring with them the creativity needed to challenge existing structures and grow the sector. For example:

- New digital booking platforms make all rail products searchable and bookable in a transparent and impartial manner².
- New startup operators have exciting plans for improving domestic & cross-border passenger rail services, such as new night trains.

But the crucial question remains: how can we bring down the cost of passenger rail, such as in ticket distribution, track access, energy, rolling stock and maintenance? So that entry costs for startups are comparable with other transport modes, leading to lower risk - and more entrepreneurs?

Grégory Merly, Managing Director of the EU Startup Prize for mobility says: *“It is important to have a loud voice for rail startups, and we are pleased to be supported by ALLRAIL which has several such startups among its members.”*

ALLRAIL President Dr. Erich Forster states: *„Startups must have the chance to challenge and improve all aspects of the rail sector. In this EU Green Week, we are proud to become a new partner of the EU Startup Prize for mobility”.*

¹ <https://startupprize.eu/>

² <https://www.railwaygazette.com/passenger/call-for-booking-platforms-to-be-given-access-to-train-operators-data/57521.article>