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## **Europorte innovates by fitting its trains with an intelligent location-based system**

In order to further improve traffic efficiency, enhance safety and optimise resource management, Europorte has taken the decision to fit GPS beacons in all its locomotives. Starting in September, some 50 traction units will be fitted with a rail movement monitoring system developed by RAILNOVA\*. Keen to optimise its service quality, Europorte has opted for this intelligent system which will keep its customers informed of the real time progress of their goods.

The device provides information on the current position of Europorte rolling stock in real time. Automatic data on rolling stock condition, e.g. temperature, average speeds, distances covered and maintenance will be added in a second phase. This electronic interface will reduce the burden of manual reporting and enable planned workshop inspections and materials supplies. Such innovations will help further to increase traffic fluidity by reducing emergency maintenance interventions. This navigation tracking system is self-contained, certified EN50155, and sends a signal once movement is detected.

Europorte is developing a modern form of rail freight combining expertise with technological innovation.

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\* Railnova is a Belgian company which develops innovative and upgradeable solutions to manage rail transport in Europe. Railnova works in partnership with a high profile manufacturer, Kerlink, whose navigation tracking system is associated to the Railster™ modules that have been entirely developed by Railnova to capture the basic data from the locomotives; the OpenERP open-source software is used to develop its Railfleet™ rail management application.