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Europorte concludes a major partnership with Trenitalia, the leading Italian rail operator

Trenitalia, the leading rail operator in Italy, and Europorte, a subsidiary within the Eurotunnel Group, have concluded a strategic agreement establishing an international rail freight link between France and Italy.

Europorte will load grain from approximately 30 silos in Burgundy, providing transportation to the South-East on behalf of the logistics operator TMF. The service will connect with Trenitalia at Amberieu (Ain), travelling to Modane, before serving several Italian destinations.

This link will be rolled-out on the basis of five return freight loads per week, representing a total tonnage of 450,000 tonnes per annum, and will make it possible to eliminate the movement of approximately 30,000 freight lorries on the roads every year.

In addition to Great Britain, where it operates through the third largest freight operator GB Railfreight, Europorte is continuing the development of its European freight network. This contract is significant in that it demonstrates not just the potential for growth of freight in France but also the expertise of Europorte: know-how in local and national transport services, and coverage of an international long-distance link.

<u>About Trenitalia</u> Trenitalia, Italy's first national rail service and one of the foremost operator in Europe, manages more than 8,000 trains per day with an average of 600 million passengers and 50 million tonnes of freight carried each year. Principal areas of activity are: high speed passengers transport, mid and long distance trains, local and regional transport, freight and logistics. Trenitalia's policy is increasingly focused toward international strategy notably external growth in important markets and the development of strategic contracts and partnerships.

About Europorte

The first private French rail operator to have obtained, in 2004, a licence authorising the development of rail services throughout the European Union, this rail freight subsidiary of the Eurotunnel Group is the 3rd largest operator within the French and British rail network. With 900 employees in France, Europorte provides tailor-made solutions for industrial operators, offering an integrated range of services covering all freight fields: from national and international haulage to logistics, from local services to management of branch lines, including the activities of a local railway operator.