



RUSSIA AND WTO: TRANSPORT STANDARDS, DRIVERS, INNOVATIONS

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An active position of Russia in relations with trade partners as well as targeted interaction of the government and foreign trade actors are necessary in order to use benefits and advantages following Russian adherence to WTO processes.

In transport sphere it is necessary to shapely link safety, quality and competitiveness factors of traffic. New traffic technologies, including multi-mode traffic with packaging and container freightage, are at the same time consequences and prerequisites of efficient use of innovations.

Today while the drivers of traffic growth are concentrated around the goods which are traditionally delivered mostly in large containers, other goods which might be forwarded in containers are less considered. The part of transit container traffic in Russia is comparatively low and doesn't respond to its geographical situation as of a main land component of many transport corridors. The main limiting factor is lesser price/quality competitiveness of railways as compared to sea services. The main guidelines for container business in Russia are defined, notably for interior container traffic, international transit, foreign trade.

The main requests of customers as for the quality of container services are reviewed. The satisfaction with price is higher than with quality.

The brief analysis of promoting measures outlines the necessity for new types of rail vehicles, information support, logistics and intermodal technology, new technology for perishing goods deliveries.

The development of transport industry can be described in terms of cycles, when periods of evolution (modernization) are replaced by qualitative bounces. So there are three forms of innovative development: replacement of vehicle models within one and the same generation of technics and mode of traffic; change of generation of vehicles and technology within one mode of traffic (e. g. steam engines are replaced by diesel locomotives); emergence of new modes or vehicles based on scientific discoveries (e. g. maglev). The quality model of a generation of transport vehicles includes traditional criteria of assessment but also the notion of scientific and technical level of transport technics. Some comments refer to the life cycle of transport vehicles, particularly on the possibility to simulate the stages of the life cycle and distribution of the costs, so that to concentrate research capacity in the areas where Russia needs modernization and adaption to WTO conditions. The main terms of Russian participation in WTO concerning transport and relevant spheres have been also reviewed.

Key words: competitiveness, intermodal freightage, multi-mode container traffic, World Trade Organization, WTO, transport innovations, international trade, railways, development, planning.

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