**TAP Phase One**

**Governance**

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## Document maintenance

This document is published by the European Railway Agency. Any reader detecting errors or needing clarification should contact the European Railway Agency.

Proposals for additions or updates can be sent to the European Railway Agency, and will undergo the Change Control Management process described in the TAP regulation.

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# List of abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in the text.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Abbreviation** | **Meaning** |
| BP | Basic Parameter |
| DG MOVE | European Commission Directorate-General for Transport |
| ERA | European Railway Agency |
| GM | General Manager |
| IM | Infrastructure Manager |
| LCC | Life Cycle Costs |
| PSO | Public Service Obligation |
| PRR | Passenger Rights Regulation EU 1371/2008 |
| RU | Railway Undertaking |
| SB | Supervisory Board |
| SMG | Service Management Group |
| TAF CCM | Telematics Applications for Freight Change Control Management |
| TAF TSI | Commission Regulation (EU) No 328/2012 of 17 April 2012 amending Regulation (EC) No 62/2006 concerning the technical specification for interoperability relating to the telematic applications for freight subsystem of the trans-European conventional rail system |
| TAP CCM | Telematics Applications for Passengers Change Control Management |
| TAP TSI | Commission Regulation (EU) No 454/2011 on the technical specifications for interoperability - Telematics Applications for Passenger Services |
| TV | Ticket Vendor, as defined in the TAP TSI Regulation |
| UIC | Union Internationale des Chemins de Fer |
| WG | Working Group |

# Purpose

## TSI telematics governance – a service to stakeholders

The existence of the TAP TSI (454/2011) and TAF TSI (62/2006)[[1]](#footnote-2) Regulations has fundamentally changed the railway business environment. The governance of some elements of railway business now requires the participation of other stakeholders[[2]](#footnote-3) such as ticket vendors and public transport authorities. Governance based on existing railway-only structures has to be changed.

In Chapter 7 of the TAP TSI Regulation, there is a requirement to develop the governance of the TAP TSI sub-system. The Regulation states: “The governance shall include the identification of the appropriate governance structures, methods and procedures to support the development and validation of the system and subsequently its deployment and its field operation and management throughout its lifetime (including dispute management between the parties involved under the provisions of this TSI).”

The TAP TSI Phase One project team has developed the governance according to the requirements in the Regulation. It has done this primarily for TAP TSI purposes but recognising the close links to TAF TSI because of the common RU/IM component in both Regulations. The project team therefore proposes that a regulatory entity for TSI telematics governance[[3]](#footnote-4) will be created as soon as the TAP TSI and TAF TSI Regulations are republished (probably Q2 2013). It is proposed that this entity will address both RU/IM and passenger retail business. It will procure and provide the services needed by TAP TSI and TAF TSI stakeholders without which railways cannot, or not efficiently, meet their regulatory obligations. The entity will facilitate the work needed in common amongst RUs and IMs and will ensure liaison with DG MOVE and ERA for TAP and TAF matters.

It is also proposed that stakeholders and third parties will have access to these services on a non-discriminatory, transparent, equitable and non-profit basis (even though funding of the entity will be needed). Stakeholders will be able to participate in the governance. Stakeholders and third parties will fund the entity and participate in its technical work. The entity will guarantee that the provision of the services is assured for as long as the TAP TSI and TAF TSI Regulations are in force.

The entity will be responsible for the final acceptance into service of all Phase Two service procurement tasks and for the governance of all Phase Three implementation and operational activities. The entity will guarantee for stakeholders and third parties transparent and equitable access to the Phase Three activities summarised above.

Note that the Phase Two development activities will retain the same governance as has applied in Phase One, with decisions being made by the TAP TSI Steering Committee. The governance described in this document comes into force only when the governance entity has been created and the regulatory services are operational.

The entity will deal solely with regulatory matters. To keep costs low, it will as much as possible build on existing services already provided elsewhere. It will be limited to holding the minimum assets needed to perform its regulatory role.

Although the governance can include TAF TSI requirements, it is for the TAF TSI Phase One project to determine the appropriate governance for their regulatory business.

# TAP TSI and TAF TSI Stakeholders

## Who are the stakeholders

The TAP TSI and TAF TSI Regulations define a set of rights and obligations that apply to a defined set of parties. These parties are the TAP TSI and TAF TSI stakeholders.

The stakeholders as listed in the Regulations are:

Freight railway undertakings

Passenger railway undertakings

Locomotive providers

Coach providers

Driver/train crew providers

Rail infrastructure managers

Station managers.

Fleet managers

Ferry boat operators

Workers

Ticket vendors

Passengers.

Freight customers.

For the purpose of TSI governance, and the meeting of the regulatory obligations, a subset of this list has been selected. To this subset have been added other stakeholders who are directly implicated in the Regulation:

* Licenced freight railway undertakings

Licenced passenger railway undertakings

Licenced infrastructure managers

Station managers

Ticket vendors

Public authorities[[4]](#footnote-5).

* + 1. The Regulation gives rights to public authorities who have a statutory obligation or right to provide members of the public with travel information and/or request paths. Public authorities who contract for rail services through service contracts are not stakeholders in the strict sense unless in addition they have a statutory obligation or right to provide members of the public with travel information and/or request paths. For reasons of convenience, Member State bodies responsible for enforcing the Passenger Rights Regulation 1371/2007 will also be treated as public authorities.

There are other parties who are referred to in the TAP TSI Regulation but who are not stakeholders. These are:

* Ticket controlling organisations

Third parties.

## How Stakeholders and their Groups are defined

Stakeholders will need to provide evidence, as part of their application for membership of the governance entity, of their entitlement to be treated as a stakeholder and for which stakeholder group.

An infrastructure manager (IM) is a stakeholder as a consequence of being licenced by its Member State.

A passenger railway undertaking (Passenger RU) is a stakeholder as a consequence of being licenced by its Member State.

A freight railway undertaking (Freight RU) is a stakeholder as a consequence of being licenced by its Member State.

A station manager is a stakeholder as a consequence of its being contracted by an RU or IM to perform station-related tasks that would otherwise fall to the RU or IM.

* + 1. A ticket vendor is a stakeholder either as a consequence of it having an agreement with a passenger railway undertaking that allows it to conclude rail transport contracts or being a member of a ticket vendor Stakeholder Group Association[[5]](#footnote-6).
    2. A public authority is a stakeholder as a consequence of it having a statutory obligation or right to provide members of the public with travel information and/or request paths. Member State bodies responsible for the enforcement of the Passengers’ Rights Regulation 1371/2007 will also be treated as public authority stakeholders.
    3. An organisation is a stakeholder whenever one or more of the conditions described above applies and ceases to be a stakeholder whenever none of the conditions above applies.
    4. The Regulation does not distinguish between small and large stakeholders. The governance entity may, if it chooses, make such a distinction for example as regards service provision and charges.
    5. Other than defined above, suppliers are not stakeholders. If suppliers can demonstrate that they are third parties, as defined in the Regulation, they will have access to the services provided by the TSI governance, but no participation in that governance.
    6. ERA and DG MOVE are not stakeholders. By virtue of DG MOVE representing the public interest, and the role of the ERA in respect of TSI management and the TAP CCM (Change Control Management) and the TAF CCM, they will have an observer role in the TSI governance as described in section 7.4.

## Issues with the identification of Stakeholders

* + 1. Taking account of all the parties, including ticket vendors, there are several tens or hundreds of thousands of possible TAP TSI and TAF TSI stakeholders. There may be several thousand third parties. Despite all reasonable efforts, the TAP TSI and TAF TSI Phase One projects have had an active involvement with only a fraction of them.
    2. There is no definitive list of licenced RUs and IMs at a European level, although Member States will have that information. There is no definitive list of ticket vendors. There is no definitive list of public authorities. A future issue for TSI governance will be, therefore, stakeholder identification and communication.
    3. In addition, non-stakeholder third parties can reasonably require access to services provided under TSI governance, and this requirement has to be met by the proposed governance.

# Principles of governance

## Basic principles and values

* + 1. The method of governance must[[6]](#footnote-7) ensure that the regulatory obligations are met and that the public interest represented in the Regulation is honoured.
    2. Stakeholders must have transparency and certainty of being able to meet their obligations and exercise their rights. The method of governance will therefore ensure an open and fair balance of stakeholder interests, as described below.
    3. Regulatory services are those services that an RU or IM cannot supply by themselves but which are essential to them if they are to meet their regulatory obligations. They are, therefore, fundamental to the business of RUs and IMs. Without these regulatory services, they cannot meet their legal obligations, recognising that not all regulatory services will be required by every RU and IM.
    4. TVs also have obligations, but in respect of the TAP TSI only as agents to RUs and not directly under the Regulation. TVs also have obligations under the PRR, but again only as agents to RUs. All TV activity associated with selling rail tickets is by agreement with one or more RUs and those RUs must place the appropriate regulatory obligations in their agency contracts with TVs.

The regulatory services must be guaranteed in perpetuity, both their existence and the basis for their costs. Without this, RUs and IMs have a legitimate basis for refusing to meet their obligations, as the regulatory services are a pre-requisite for compliance and as such must be ensured by above regulatory entity (see chapter 4.1.3 above).

* + 1. RUs, IMs and other stakeholders have regulatory rights. The regulatory services are essential in order that they can all exercise their rights. The regulatory services must be therefore provided under the control of all the stakeholders in order to provide the necessary levels of neutrality, transparency and certainty.
    2. The method of governance and its decision making must therefore reflect the value of the railway-related business of each of the stakeholder groups. Decisions, especially those involving significant change, must be made on the basis of commercial business cases and a commercial return on any investments that follow. Decision-making should prevent the undue influence of any individual stakeholder company in decision making.
    3. The method of governance must ensure that business can be executed effectively and at the lowest reasonable cost.
    4. The method of governance must be able to evolve with changes to business process and technical developments in the rail industry. The method of governance will therefore value innovation and leadership, sharing the breadth of expertise stakeholders have to deliver the best result, combining experience and new ideas.

## Regulatory service provision

* + 1. TSI governance and its related services must be limited to regulatory business only and must not include matters of non-regulatory commercial interest.
    2. The governance of a service must be carried out on behalf of those with a business interest in the service. Stakeholders having no regulatory interest in a service must not be involved in its governance (for example, ticket vendors should not be involved in path requests and infrastructure managers should not be involved in TAP retail matters).
    3. The provision of the regulatory services must not be profit-making. Service provision must not require the holding of reserves other than those necessary to cover regulatory activities.
    4. The provision of regulatory services must take as much as possible full advantage of equivalent activities already being undertaken by the stakeholders.
    5. Execution of the technical services as defined above must include stakeholder and third party technical experts. Work by stakeholders must be paid for where it is needed to perform the technical services and where it is beyond that which can be expected free of charge from stakeholders. This applies especially where work must be undertaken to timescales defined by the TSI governance and not by the contributing stakeholder(s).
    6. Stakeholders must not be forced to subsidise the costs of other stakeholders who could well be competitors.
    7. TSI governance must provide regulatory services in such a way that ensures both regulatory and non-regulatory business requirements of stakeholders are met. In particular for TAP TSI, this requires technical consistency between the sets of retail specifications needed for distribution (largely covered by the Regulation) and accounting (not covered by the Regulation). For TAF TSI the same consideration applies for the non-regulatory messages that complement the regulatory RU/IM messages.

## Procurement processes

* + 1. The TSI governance entity is not a utility. However, it will adhere to European public procurement rules as a matter of policy when procuring the regulatory services. This includes in particular a competitive tender process that seeks to find the best combination available of quality of service, time to market and price.
    2. However, for Phase Two, the principle set out in paragraph 6.2.4 above can be used to minimise the development and delivery risk of specialist services, reduce the start-up costs and ensure the earliest provision of the regulatory services. The Phase Two project team will therefore have the option of using single-tender actions where these can clearly be demonstrated to offer good value, low risk and an early provision of the service.

## Funding – EU institutions or stakeholders

The European Commission and the European Railway Agency will not play an active managerial or financial role in the TSI governance. In the non-regulatory world, this activity is already the responsibility of the stakeholders and they have already started the planning and financial requisition needed to cover the extra governance regulatory work.

The possible concerns of smaller RUs and IMs will be addressed by the stakeholders to ensure that this proposal for stakeholder funding does not lead to there being barriers to entry for them.

European project funding will be an option for the entity but only in respect of distinct projects and not the day to day provision and operational tasks of the regulatory services.

## Governance procedures and rules

The TSI governance must respect the requirements of the Regulation and must provide a transparent and non-discriminatory basis for stakeholder participation in TAP Phase Three[[7]](#footnote-8). The governance procedures and rules ensure this happens. Any changes to the procedures and rules must be agreed by DG MOVE, once processed through the ERA TAP TSI working party and RISC (as is the case for changes to Basic Parameters in the Regulation). This need for European Commission formal agreement ensures that the public interest is protected and that the governance continues to respect the regulatory requirements.

* + 1. Another method of addressing the requirements would have been to have DG MOVE and/or ERA participating in all working matters of the governance with voting rights in the business. The option of operational involvement of government in the business of the rail industry was precluded as an inappropriate activity for legislators. It should be noted that in relation to the European institutions it is proposed in later chapters that ERA has ex-officio participation as observer in all expert working groups and that DG MOVE and ERA participate in the work of the Supervisory Board and Service Management Groups as observers in all technical matters, as described in section 7.4 and 7.57.4.
    2. The link to the ERA TAP CCM change management process is described later in section 8.5.

## Basis for charging

The estimation of governance entity costs and the subsequent basis for charging is set out in detail in the Masterplan document.

An annual membership fee will be charged, with no distribution key. This fee is mandatory for those parties who have regulatory obligations to meet. It is essential for the continued existence of the governance entity that stakeholders pay these fees. It is therefore proposed that membership of the entity becomes a licence obligation for RUs and IMs.

# Governance procedures and rules

## TSI governance structure

* + 1. It is proposed that the regulatory services are provided by a permanent entity owned and run by the stakeholders. This entity can enter into contracts. There will be one entity that covers all telematics TSIs. The entity will include all stakeholders, TAP and TAF, but certain classes of stakeholders will not able to vote on business matters in which it has no interest[[8]](#footnote-9). Moreover, the entity will also provide the conciliation service for the parties involved under the provisions of this TSI.

## Governance structure

The structure for the governance of the entity is set out below. It is described in the following sections of this chapter.



## Stakeholder Group Associations

The governance entity represents the interests of stakeholder groups, as defined in section 5.2. The5.2. It is proposed that nomination to the decision-making groups in the entity is the responsibility of the associations representing the various stakeholder groups.

## Supervisory Board

* + 1. The entity is managed by a Supervisory Board nominated by the Stakeholder Group Associations. Nominees are replaced every three years, one third each year. Seats will be allocated to the Supervisory Board by the Phase Two Transition project team according to the principles set out in chapter 6.
    2. This governance document includes both TAP TSI and TAF TSI stakeholders. While the TAF TSI stakeholders are considering their requirements for governance it is not possible to propose seat allocations in this document, other than they must follow the principles set out in chapter 66.1.
    3. Not all stakeholders can vote on all aspects of business, as identified in section 6.2.6.2. For example, ticket vendors may not vote on RU/IM matters. Infrastructure managers and freight RUs may not vote on TAP retail matters. On the other hand if a stakeholder has a seat for TAP matters and another one for TAF then the stakeholder’s vote for common TAP/TAF elements (for instance for reference locations used by both TAP and TAF) will not be duplicated. The Supervisory Board will set these voting rules.
    4. Attendance at the Board is not paid. The Board elects its own chair and deputy chair. Voting on all matters requires 80% of seats in favour. Voting is as far as possible based on the consensus of all Board members.
    5. The Board is supported by a General Manager (GM). The responsibilities of the GM are described below. S/he will either be seconded by a stakeholder group association or employed as a supplier to the entity, as decided by the Board. Her/his replacement will be under the same rules as nominees or as agreed by the Board.
    6. The Board meets according to its business requirements, typically every six months. It monitors and ensures that all the business of the entity accords with these governance procedures and rules. It approves the report of the GM and informs about the business undertaken to the Stakeholder Group Associations.
    7. The Board is responsible for all decisions on budgets and finance, based on information provided by the General Manager and the Service Management Groups (SMGs). It is responsible for deciding what Regulation-related business to conduct and how, as long as that business adheres to these procedures and rules, and issues work mandates to the Service Management Groups.
    8. The Board decides on all service-related matters, upon the recommendation of the Service Management Groups. It only responds to recommendations from the GM and SMGs and does not make proposals on its own account in respect of business managed by the SMGs. It also decides the participation fee and the service charges.
    9. The Board decides on the common stakeholders’ positions for all TAP CCM and TAF CCM business, on the recommendation of the retail and RU/IM technical Service Management Groups.
    10. The Board delegates to two of its members the right to sign service provision contracts on its behalf, together with the GM.
    11. Changes to these governance procedures and rules are recommended to DG MOVE by the Supervisory Board. The approval process (see paragraph 6.5.1) requires changes to be proposed by the ERA TAP TSI Working Party and noted by RISC.
    12. DG MOVE, ERA and a European passenger representative may attend the Supervisory Board as observers in all matters related to the regulatory architecture and the technical specifications. Those same representatives may attend the financial and commercial business of the Supervisory Board by invitation.

## Service Management Groups

* + 1. Service definitions form part of the governance procedures and rules. A description of the services is provided in chapter 8.8. Revisions to the service definitions are managed by the relevant SMGs.
    2. Each of the three main areas of TAP TSI and TAF TSI regulatory service (operational computer services, retail technical services and RU/IM technical services) is monitored by a SMG. Each group has 10 seats. Members are nominated by the Supervisory Board according to the relevant stakeholder group seat allocations in the Supervisory Board. Group members will have clear expertise in the subject of the group as a prerequisite to nomination. Groups meet monthly, or as required by business. Each group selects its chair, who acts as the secretary to the group and is responsible for its business. SMG participation is not paid apart from the time and travelling expenses of the chair, plus the travelling expenses of members.
    3. ERA may attend all SMGs as observers in all matters related to the regulatory architecture and the technical specifications. ERA may attend the financial and commercial business of the Supervisory Board by invitation.
    4. Members of each Service Management Group act as representatives of their stakeholder group and not of their own company. They perform their tasks and introduce business on behalf of their stakeholders. They coordinate their voting positions with their stakeholder group.
    5. Each SMG will report to and make recommendations through the General Manager to the Supervisory Board. Each SMG will make budget requests through the General Manager to the Supervisory Board for service procurement and operational funds and for the costs of the group chair and member’s travel expenses. The SMG will respond to appropriate requests from the Supervisory Board. Primary SMG responsibilities are:
* Service performance, issues and problems

Identification of commercial and services issues needing changes to regulatory documentation

preparation of technical documentation and industry business cases for TAP CCM and potentially TAF CCM change requests

Service charges and changes to charges

Service procurements and changes

Changes to entity governance procedures and rules.

* + 1. The Technical SMGs use Expert Working Groups (WGs) to study technical matters where specific expertise is needed. WGs are made up of experts either from stakeholders, from third parties, or from other organisations nominated by stakeholders. WGs carry out work and report to their SMG but do not make decisions. WG participation is not paid apart from the time and travel expenses of the WG chair. ERA may participate as observer in the work of all WGs.
    2. WGs monitor and review requests for changes to codelists and reference data proposed by the various stakeholder groups. They manage the working versions of the regulatory and related documentation such as Implementation Guides and publish regulatory documents on behalf of ERA. They provide technical support services to stakeholders. They are responsible for the technical studies and business case development associated with TAP CCM and TAF CCM change requests. They make suggestions to their SMG for possible changes to governance rules.
    3. SMGs do not make decisions but prepare recommendations for the Supervisory Board on the basis of work undertaken by the Expert Working Groups. Voting to make a recommendation to the Supervisory Board requires 80% of SMG seats in favour. Voting is as far as possible based on the consensus of all SMG members.
    4. If a stakeholder has a seat for TAP matters and another one for TAF then the stakeholder’s vote for common TAP/TAF elements (for instance for reference locations used by both TAP and TAF) will not be duplicated. The Supervisory Board will set these voting rules.
    5. The administration and conciliation services are managed directly by the General Manager.
    6. All service provision tenders are procured by the General Manager and the relevant SMG on behalf of and subject to the agreement of the Supervisory Board. The procurement rules to be used have been defined in section 6.3.

## Entity finances

* + 1. Where the entity requires funds for service development, and this is not included by the service provider in the service charges, the entity will need to raise capital by borrowing. It may borrow funds from stakeholders or from banks/ financial institutions (including EU Institutions) on negotiated terms, but stakeholders’ financial contributions are the preferred means of financing.
    2. The entity will not be permitted to make a profit, except the minimum needed for the legitimate reclaim of VAT of the country of residence of the entity. At the end of each financial year, after allowing for the reserves or stakeholder guarantees needed for on-going obligations and risks, any surplus or shortfall will be corrected by an adjustment to the membership fee.

# Regulatory services

## Service provision role of TSI governance

* + 1. The purpose of the TSI governance entity is to provide services to stake-holders and to facilitate the meeting of their regulatory obligations. It is not the task of the entity to direct stakeholders or to oblige them to follow the Regulation. The entity is there as a stakeholder support.
    2. The instructions for stakeholders as regards meeting their regulatory obligations and exercising their rights are in the IT Specifications. It is to the Specifications (and the documents referenced by them) that stakeholders will go if they need to find out anything about the TAP TSI and TAF TSI sub-systems. If they are having difficulties in using the Specifications then the governance entity can help, but it is not its task to enforce the contents of the Specifications on stakeholders.
    3. The IT Specifications contain references to services provided by the TSI governance entity and the entity makes those services available to stakeholders as defined in the Specifications. It does this through the service requirements it places on its service providers and these requirements correspond to those referred to in the Specifications. The TSI governance entity will ensure that the services it provides are kept synchronised with the services for stakeholders described in the Specifications.

## Services to be provided under TSI governance

* + 1. Three sets of regulatory services will be provided by the SMGs:
* Operational computer services

Retail technical services

RU/IM technical services.

In addition to the main regulatory services, the TSI governance entity provides administrative and conciliation services. These are supervised by the General Manager.

Note that no services are provided in relation to the payment or settlement of sums under ticket or freight selling contracts or similar commercial contracts. Services are strictly limited to technical matters needed for stakeholders to meet their regulatory obligations under the TAP TSI and TAF TSI.

Every service provider task contract will have in it some general functional and non-functional requirements to be provided by the service provider for the benefit of the governance entity, including:

* imposition of relevant Governance Rules on suppliers – e.g. participation in WGs by nominees of stakeholders and third parties

ensuring data protection and related statutory requirements are met

ensuring security and back-up of all data and documents held under the contract

ensuring appropriate disaster recovery facilities

use of an appropriate service management methodology – including the management of incidents and problems

service penalties for poor service.

## Use of regulatory services

The entity will publish detailed information that explains to interested parties whether they are a stakeholder, a third party, or that they have no rights or obligations under the Regulation.

This information will be provided by the governance entity to Member State regulatory bodies for them as far as possible to distribute as part of their licencing responsibilities.

If an organisation considers that it is a stakeholder or a third party it may apply for membership of the entity. Membership gives rights to all the services provided by the entity and enables the organisation to send experts to the working groups. The membership application will require the organisation to submit supporting documents showing if they are a stakeholder and, if so, attached to which stakeholder group. The governance entity will verify the application and the documentation.

The rights of membership will apply solely to the member. It is essential that all stakeholders and third parties who require access to the regulatory services provided by the governance entity are members and pay the appropriate fee. If members are allowed to pass on their regulatory services to other parties then the financial security of the entity will be at risk.

Once membership is confirmed, the entity will set up the appropriate access for the member to all the operational computer services. This will include the notification service relating to updates to entity resources and assets. If membership is declined, the party can raise the matter with its Member State regulatory body.

If the member is a stakeholder, rather than a third party, it can work privately with other members of its stakeholder group to nominate members of the Supervisory Board and the Service Management Groups. It can also propose its own nominees to be considered for membership of the Supervisory Board and/or the Service Management Groups. The rules for nomination of the Supervisory Board and the Service Management Groups are local to each stakeholder group and are not the business of the governance entity.

All stakeholders can propose changes to the technical resources of the entity including reference data, technical documents, specifications, etc. Proposals for change are submitted to the chair of the appropriate Technical Service Management Group who will manage the proposal as defined in sections 8.58.5 and 8.6.

## Operational computer services

There will be four operational computer-based services provided under TSI governance. These are defined in detail in chapters 9 to 11 of the TAP TSI Retail Architecture, as are the requirements documents for each service that will be used to procure them. In consequence, this document contains only a high-level summary of each of them. The services are:

* Membership service

Reference data service (common, RU/IM and retail)

Notification service (including central registry)

Data quality checking service.

***Membership service***

* + 1. The membership service provides for the entity to record the details of all registered stakeholders and third parties. The service allows individual members to register their own contact details and allows all members to enquire about the contact details of other members.

***Reference data service***

* + 1. An operational computer-based reference data service is required that provides stakeholders and others with access to all data elements held in common, such as locations, companies and other codelists. The functional and non-functional requirements for these services are defined in the TAP TSI and TAF TSI architectures. In addition, the reference data service must provide for application-specific reference data such as those needed for timetables and tariffs.

***Notification service***

* + 1. The notification service will allow stakeholders and third parties to be advised of changes to any item of TSI-related data known to the notification service. This will include reference data, technical documents, IT Specifications and stakeholder data such as timetables and tariffs. Stakeholders will be able to register their interests in TSI resources. All resources owned by the entity will be available for all stakeholders and third parties.

***Data quality service***

* + 1. The data quality checking services will provide a set of checks on data such as timetables and tariffs.
    2. In the future, new operational computer services may be needed for stakeholders. If this is required it will be introduced according to the procedures of the TSI governance.

## Retail technical services

There will be three retail technical services provided under TSI governance:

* Technical document service

Change management service

Technical support service.

* + 1. An overview of the services is provided in this chapter. A summary of the requirements needed to procure the services is provided in chapter 9.

***Technical Document Service***

* + 1. A technical document service will be provided under TSI governance. This will make available to stakeholders and others all the technical documentation needed to participate in the TAP TSI Architecture. Note that stakeholders include ticket vendors, public authorities and third parties as well as the current railway stakeholders.
    2. The service will manage working versions of documents and provide them to members together with other relevant documentation held outside the Regulation but which is needed to make compliant use of the ERA Technical Documents. This additional documentation includes IT Specifications, quality specifications, data models, xsd schemas and detailed test cases that explain how to use the specifications and that define how compliance can be checked.
    3. The technical document service will hold the working versions of documents required by stakeholders for their business. Versions of these documents will be published on behalf of the ERA, once approved where appropriate by the TAP CCM, in order to meet the ERA’s regulatory obligations for publication. The ERA will publish version-controlled regulatory documents, rather than the full set of operational specifications and support documentation needed by stakeholders and other members.

***Change Management Service***

* + 1. ERA Technical Documents and related documents are subject to continuous change and a change management service is required for the stakeholders. The effort and process needed to assess the impacts of a change will need to reflect the complexity of the change and the commercial impact on stakeholders.
    2. The change management service will, therefore, recognise four classes of change that have different commercial impacts on stakeholders and will adapt the technical studies and business case development accordingly. The greater the impact, the more extensive the preparation work and the greater the need to ensure there is an industry business case. The four classes are, from simplest to most complex:
* codelists

optional change to existing specification

mandatory change to existing specification

new specification or other business process change.

* + 1. Technical studies and industry business cases will be carried out under TSI governance to form the link between all the stakeholders and the regulatory TAP TSI Change Control Management process and the ERA TAP TSI Working Party needed to change regulatory Basic Parameters. This service will use expert working groups to carry out change request technical studies. Technical studies will need to provide information including:
* outline project plan for implementing the change

proposed changes to all impacted specifications

revised IT Specifications and test and data quality specifications

obligations in respect of the use of the changed specification

identification of any audit, legal, or administration impacts

requirements for updates to related TAP TSI documents such as specifications and architecture

costed changes needed to operational services provided under TAP TSI governance.

* + 1. Stakeholders affected by the change will use this information to make individual studies of the impact on their own organisation from which they can contribute their input to the overall industry business case, subject to competition law and stakeholders’ individual policies on sharing sensitive business information. This information is used by the change management service to provide the objective information needed for decision making and subsequent submission to the ERA TAP CCM.
    2. For the rare cases of significant business process change, a migration project may be required in order to coordinate the change across all stakeholders. In this case, such a project will be managed by the change management service. Depending on the significance of the change, these projects will vary in size and scope, although in some cases they can be expected to last several years. The requirement for a change-related project shall be submitted to ERA TAP CCM Working Party as information relevant to its decision-making process.
    3. The change management service will encourage expert working group members to maintain links with other standards bodies where their scope covers rail passenger retail and operations in whatever form[[9]](#footnote-10).
    4. Not all of the change control process requires technical expertise and more generalist administration will be provided by the service to manage the overall flow of change requests. Suitable tools for document and specification management will be used, providing the usual facilities of workflow and version control.

***Technical Support Service***

* + 1. A technical support service will be provided at a charge to stakeholders where they require skilled technical advice about their use of the TAP TSI specifications and architecture. In order to pick up systematic errors in the specifications, this will include an incident and problem management system.

No services will be provided that relate to stakeholder certification, accreditation or compliance. Individual stakeholders and third parties will have the complete responsibility for their own compliance of the regulation and technical standards. Where there is a dispute between stakeholders in respect of compliance, the entity will offer a conciliation service for the parties involved.

All this work is carried out by the SMG using a service provider contract as tasks executed by expert Working Groups (WGs). Note that the purpose of the service provider contract is simply to administer the expert working groups. The work done in the expert working groups is undertaken pro bono by stakeholders, with the exception of the chair, who is paid.

## 

, depending on the requirements of the relevant stakeholders.

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* + 1. A comprehensive statement of member service contract terms obligations will be drafted during Phase Two. Registration is needed

delegated signatories of the entity (see 7.4.10).

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* + 1. In order to meet the requirement in the TAP TSI Regulations for dispute resolution[[10]](#footnote-11), a conciliation service for stakeholders and their commercial partners will be provided by the entity. or specifications. The service will be based on adjudication procedures used in civil contracts involving an external expert, using as agreed the law of the country of one or other of the stakeholders or third parties seeking the service.

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* + 1. .

# Regulatory service description

## Retail technical services

The retail service SMG is responsible for the retail technical services described in chapter 8. Some of the technical services are provided by a contracted and out-sourced service provider. In order to meet its responsibilities, the SMG will carry out some tasks itself, but mainly work with the service provider to have the tasks carried out on its behalf. For the retail technical services most of the work will be carried out by expert working groups. The service provider will organise and manage these groups. As stated above, though, the members of the working groups participate as voluntary experts and are not employees of or members of the service provider.

The SMG needs to be able to request from the service provider the creation and disbanding of WGs as required, so that tasks can be allocated to the WGs. The chair of each WG will be paid for time and travel expenses, so the creation of a WG requires budget and work programme approval from the Supervisory Board. The service provider contract is prepared by the SMG chair and reviewed by the SMG. It is approved by the Supervisory Board and signed by two authorised signatories of the entity.

WGs are open to competent nominees of all stakeholders and third parties, plus ERA. This is a change from the current position where there are limitations to who may participate in this work. The WG service provider contract will require this wider participation.

Change control applies to five kinds of document/resource:

* Reference data and codelists (through ERA CCM procedures)

ERA Technical Documents (through ERA CCM procedures)

IT Specifications (including quality rules)

Operational computer service requirements[[11]](#footnote-12)

the TAP TSI Architecture definition.

Change management in the entity will be risk-driven, so the effort applied in each case will depend on the class of the change as defined above. However, the process to be followed is essentially the same in all cases, whichever type of document/resource is affected.

The SMG manages the change control process workflow. The process workflow is summarised in the following figure:



In the case that any recommendation relating to a change request is not accepted, then the promoter of the change may either retract the change proposal entirely or make a new proposal that addresses the reason for rejection.

If a change is accepted by the SMG then the SMG chair seeks approval from Supervisory Board – including an approval for the change implementation project budget if needed because the change is of major significance.

The SMG chair manages the progress of the change through its various stages (including the ERA TAP CCM and subsequent implementation) and reports to the SMG and the Supervisory Board.

The process workflow for technical operational system support, undertaken by the SMG, is summarised as follows:

* SMG chair receives request for operational support from stakeholder – ideally through stakeholder group nominee on SMG

SMG chair requests assessment of support effort from WG – including the cost of providing the operational support if more than normally accommodated in general support

SMG chair confirms with stakeholder and instructs WG to provide support

SMG chair advises admin services of the supply agreement

SMG chair reports to admin services on progress of support and on completion

SMG chair reviews support activities with SMG and reports to Supervisory Board.

The task requirements for the retail technical services which are to be contracted to a service provider are defined in the table below. This table will be expanded further in Phase Two during the preparation of the invitation to tender documents and the service requirements.

The reference to controlled documents includes reference datasets and passenger and RU/IM codelists, ERA Technical Documents, IT and quality specifications, TAP TSI architecture definition.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Requirement** | **Volumetrics[[12]](#footnote-13)** | **Service Level** |
| Create and remove WGs | 2 per year | Two weeks from instruction |
| Publish documents as required to meet ERA TAP TSI obligations | 50 per year | Two days from instruction |
| Publish controlled documents to stakeholders and third parties according to access control policies – using notification service | 50 per year | Two days from instruction |
| Administer approvals for release of restricted documents | 10 per year | Two days from instruction |
| Provide document management system to store controlled documents and maintain version and release control according to access control policies | Once |  |
| Provide Change Request (CR) register and CR website where work in progress documents and FAQ can be accessed | Once |  |
| Register CR details and maintain status of CR changes | 50 per year | Within 1 day from instruction |
| Provide initial assessment of CRs | 50 per year | One week from instruction |
| Provide detailed assessment of CRs including complete set of document changes, risks, cost of implementation project if required, etc | 50 per year | Depends on significance of change |
| Canvass stakeholder views on CRs including costs and implementation issues – using notification service – and prepare industry business case | 50 per year | Depends on significance of change |
| Make CR submissions to TAP CCM | 50 per year | One week from instruction |
| Execute implementation projects where the significance of the agreed change requires an industry-wide implementation project | One every two or three years | As defined in project plan |
| Provide report on WGs activity for SMG with status of CRs and controlled documents | Monthly | One week in advance of meeting |
| Provide administration for WGs including rooms, meeting calling instructions, publication of minutes and papers according to access control policies, etc | 20 meetings a year | Normally one month’s notice; Exceptionally one week’s notice |
| Provide help desk and operational support for users of TAP TSI related components such as reservations, timetable, governance computer services, etc | 200 enquiries a year | Response within one day Provision of support as agreed with SMG |
| Assess and cost requests for specific requests for operational support from new and existing stakeholders in respect of TAP TSI related RU-RU systems such as reservation and fulfilment | 20 per year | One week from instruction |

## Administrative services

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The task requirements for the service provider are defined in the table below. The volumetrics may be larger if a simple charging regime is not possible.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Requirement** | **Volumetrics[[13]](#footnote-14)** | **Service Level** |
| Administrative process requests for membership including confirmation of status as stakeholder (of various kinds) or third party | 100 in first year  50 a year thereafter | Six months in first year  One month thereafter |
| Create/change/remove entry in membership computer service | 100 in first year  50 a year thereafter | Three months in first year  Two days thereafter |
| Create/change/delete access rights on all operational computer services in accordance with stakeholder or third party status – including reference computer service, notification computer service and data quality checking service | 100 in first year  50 a year thereafter | Three months in first year  Two days thereafter |
| Maintain accounting ledgers and accounting controls required by law | Once | All data correct within five days from instruction |
| Provide standard monthly financial reports to SMGs and Supervisory Board | Monthly | One week prior to meeting |
| Provide adhoc financial reports on demand | 50 per year | Two days from instruction |
| Provide statutory reports | Annually | Within company law deadlines |
| Keep records of all chargeable activity | On-going | Two days from instruction |
| Administer payments to SMG/WG chairs and expense costs for SMG members | 30 to 50 payments per month | Invoices processed in five days  Payment within 30 days of valid invoice |
| Pay bills and collect debts | 40 to 60 transactions per month | Documents processed in five days |
| Advise SMGs and Supervisory Board of cases where debts are not paid | Quarterly | In monthly SB report |

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1. See both regulations at: http://eur-lex.europa.eu. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. For definitions see next chapter. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Note that there can be separate governance entities for non-telematics TSIs, i.e. other than TAP TSI and TAF TSI. Those TSIs are not being addressed here. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Also referred to as Public Bodies. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. The Stakeholder Group Associations for ticket vendors are defined as ECTAA and ETTSA. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. The word “must” has been used to indicate that the principles are governance objectives rather than regulatory requirements. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. Note that TAP TSI Phase Two will continue with the Steering Committee-based governance used in Phase One. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. See also section 7.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. This will include for example CIT, OTA, ISO and CEN Technical Committees, plus other industry-based standards activities such as the relevant parts of the mobile telecommunications industry and the payment industry. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. No such requirement is stated in the TAF TSI Regulation. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. Requirements documents are likely to be recreated for each change of service or re-procurement, rather than being held as live documents subject to regular revision and update. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. Estimates. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. Estimates. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)