## April 2018

14.30-18.30h

## EBU Event 2018

IWT as key player in the multimodal transport chain

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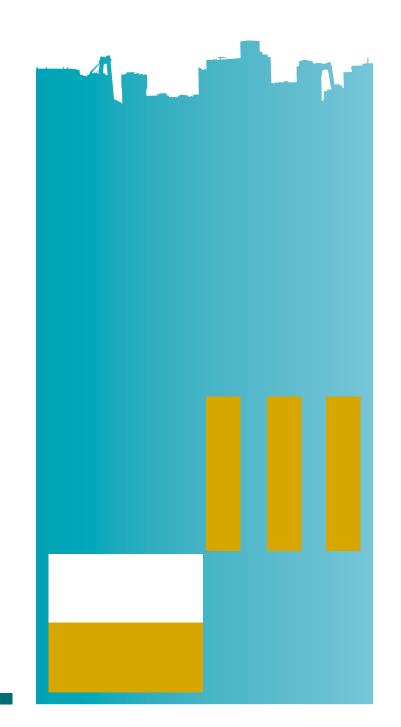


Organisation



European Barge Union Venue:

Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the European Union Rue Montoyer 47 1040 Brussels, Belgium



## EBU Event 2018

IWT as key player in the multimodal transport chain

Disposing over 40.000 km of navigable waterways and over 250 inland ports Inland Waterway Transport IWT carries some 550 million t of goods a year and is of increasing importance in the field of cruising and passenger transport. The overall growth rate of this sector in the past 20 years amounted 25%.

Contrary to the congested roads the network of European waterways still disposes over free capacity, offering a huge modal shift potential. IWT is a crucial player in the multimodal transport chain.

The announcement of the Multimodal Year by the European Commission is accompanied by some initiatives in the field of digitalisation and combined transport. EBU has been involved in the discussions and meetings of the Digital Transport & Logistics Forum DTLF and has developed its position paper in the area of e-freight transport documents. Furthermore the Commission proposed

to amend the **Combined Transport Directive** which is the only legal instrument at Union level to incentivise the shift from road freight to lower emission transport modes such as inland waterway transport.

EBU as part of a coalition of inland waterway transport (IWT) and ports recently released its vision towards 2030. It expresses the view that green, smart and congestion-free transport and logistics serving a circular and bio-based economy will only be a reality tomorrow if they can build on a solid policy strategy supported by sufficient and effective implementation tools. A major focus lies on the need of coordination, investment, legislation and innovation.

While the EU budget for the next financial period (2021-2028) is now being discussed, the Inland Waterway Transport sector stresses the importance of a strong Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) with sufficient support for Inland Waterway Transport infrastructure.

EBU will discuss these developments and its priorities with high level representatives of the European Institutions and River Commissions.



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14.30	Registration and coffee
15.00	Opening and welcome by Hendrik Wüst, Minister of Transport of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia
15.15	Key note speeches by Henrik Hololei, Director General European Commission, DG MOVE Achim Wehrmann, President Central Commission for the Navigation on the Rhine (CCNR), Director Shipping Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure, Bonn Paul Goris, President EBU
16.00	Panel discussion 'IWT as crucial player within the Multimodal Transport Chain' Gerd Deimel, MD Consulting to Infrastructure c2iChairman VCI Initiative Infrastructure Achim Wehrmann, President CCNR Paul Goris, President EBU chaired by Theresia Hacksteiner, Secretary General EBU
17.30	Summary and closure
17.35	Cocktail and networking

Free registration: www.ebu-uenf.org