

JNS Urgent Procedure Task Force 1/2021  
“Great Belt Incident January 2021”

Immediate Temporary Safety Measures  
Valenciennes, April 2021



Following the incident on the Great Belt bridge of 13.01.2021 in Denmark, which happened at the same location as the accident of 02.01.2019 (see Joint Network Secretariat (JNS) Urgent Procedure and Normal Procedure), the Danish NSA imposed immediate measures directed at the transport of semi-trailers on pocket wagons.

This triggered a new JNS Urgent Procedure aiming at identifying short-term risk mitigation measures in order to resume as soon as possible the transport of semi-trailers on pocket wagons on the Danish network and in particular on the Great Belt bridge.

The Task Force of representatives from the national safety authorities of Denmark, Sweden, Germany and The Netherlands as well as experts from the railway sector had its kick-off meeting on 04.02.2021 and concluded its work on 31.03.2021 with the following outcome:

- The sub-group of stakeholders represented by CER/UIC, ERFA, UIP and UIRR agreed on 5 risk mitigation measures to be applied as a temporary action plan of strictly local nature, specifically to the GBB and not required throughout the rest of the Danish rail network. The sub-group underlined that permanent measures shall replace these local and temporary safety measures as soon as possible.
- The infrastructure manager Banedanmark added a separate statement in which it agreed on the 5 measures.
- On this basis, the NSA DK has imposed a new set of risk mitigation measures to replace the current immediate measures that have prevented the transport of semi-trailers on pocket wagons on the Danish network and in particular on the Great Belt bridge.
- Furthermore, the Task Force concluded that 8 aspects will have to be treated further within the on-going JNS Normal Procedure on the Great Belt accident/incident. The outcome of the Normal Procedure could replace the set of risk mitigation measures imposed by NSA DK for the transport of semi-trailers on pocket wagons.



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