FOSTERING MULTI-MODAL SHIFT

Shifting freight from road to rail: A market ready solution in Örebro and the challenges and opportunities related to it



Within the framework of the EU INTERREG BSR project Scandria2Act, the project partner Region Örebro County conducted a market-ready solution to shift freight from road to rail for freight flows between Örebro and Europe that can be implemented by the actors working in the Örebro region. The study also identifies and describes the challenges and opportunities for creating a viable solution for the modal shift purpose.

The aims of the study are within the context of:

- Developing the function of Region Örebro as a connection linking Sweden with Europe
- Increasing the amount of train traffic moving through the Örebro region
- Strengthening Region Örebro as a hub and increasing its competitiveness
- ...while at the same time working to reduce environmental impacts from freight transport.











RESULTS/CONCLUSIONS

The market study identified several obstacles to achieve a modal shift:

- Competition from other modes of transport.
- Proximity to ports and intermodal terminals are important factors.
- Sea transport is more attractive if:
 - ♦ high volumes of goods
 - ♦ ports in close proximity
- If the distance is too short railway as a mode of transport will have a hard time competing with truck transports.
- The procedure for booking a railway transport is generally considered more complex than the procedure for booking a truck transport.

The solution:

- A market-ready multimodal solution focused on shifting freight from road to rail from Örebro to and from Europe.
- This solution has been implemented by Region Örebro County within the context of this project, and more than 200 TEU / week of goods per week have been identified as potential to be shifted.
- There are two ways that this can be done:
 - ♦ Create a new train service (a shuttle or unit train) that carries freight that was previously carried by road.
 - ♦ Identify freight flows that today are transported by road that can be carried on existing train services

What is needed to make the shift from road to rail:

- Shifting freight from road to rail is about finding the freight volumes
- It requires the identification of freight flows, and the matching of freight flows with train operators to run new services or to use existing services which have spare capacity.



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