

# Building Bridges

Strengthening  
the ENIM  
and RNE  
relation in  
its role as  
Network  
Coordinator

**Date: 20 November 2025**





## Educational background

- Technical College (HTL) for Precision Engineering
- Master's degree in Electrical Engineering, Energy Technology – TU Vienna
- Doctoral studies and University Assistant at the Institute of Electrical Power Systems, TU Vienna
- Joined ÖBB in 1997

## Leadership Journey at ÖBB

- Board Member for Operations, Market, and Digitalization, ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG
- Managing Director at ÖBB-Business Competence Center GmbH
- Head of Railway Systems Division, ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG
- Head of Power Plants & Energy Division, ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG

## Educational background

- After studying (Technical Management) at the University of Twente, John worked for years as a senior manager at Accenture.
- General Management Program at Harvard Business School
- Since 2005 he has held various positions within ProRail.

## Leadership Journey at ProRail

- John Voppen started as CEO of ProRail in December 2019
- Before his CEO-position he was COO
- Director of Traffic Management.
- Director of Finance
- Manager Control

In addition to his work, John is a member of the Supervisory Board of the Deventer Hospital. In his spare time, he trains a basketball team and is president of the Dutch Basketball Association.

# Why?

- Austria and the Netherlands are small countries **with an international orientation**
- This makes us **deeply interconnected with our neighbors**
- cross-border cooperation is essential for our stability and economy
- We depend on **strong partnerships**, open markets, and shared regulations
- **We need Europe** to stay competitive
- We represent **EIM** and **CER**

# Common goals

- The capacity regulation will reshape the way we work, and how we collaborate as Infrastructure Managers
- Challenges and opportunities
- Aim: create a harmonised, uniform, seamless process for internationally operating RUs
- The European Commission is pursuing ambitious goals
- Co-candidacy on equal footing - to ensure that ENIM's Chair reflects diverse perspectives and interests of the entire spectrum of European Infrastructure Managers
- This diversity will give ENIM the legitimacy and capacity it needs to act effectively

## Two Guiding Principles for ENIM:

### 1) Efficiency

- A smooth transition from this plenary to ENIM's founding plenary in June 2026.
- Strengthen dialogue with current Co-Chairs and with RNE as Network Coordinator
- Jointly design new governance structures that enable us to deliver on the tasks foreseen in the regulation

### 2) Transparency

- ENIM will be a new network making strategic decisions
  - As Chair, our role will be to monitor and guide consultations, bringing consensual solutions to the plenary – ambitious, yet realistic and operationally feasible
  - During the transition period, we will promote best practice exchange and address concerns from Infrastructure Managers regarding the sometimes very ambitious processes
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- Our ultimate goal: broad acceptance and successful implementation of the regulation