

DIGITAL CAPACITY MANAGEMENT GOVERNANCE

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT IN:

DIGITAL CAPACITY MANAGEMENT STAKEHOLDER GROUP

CAPACITY PLANNING TOOL USER GROUP

PATH COORDINATION SYSTEM USER GROUP

1 Context and purpose

The recently published EU Regulation 2026/1184 on the use of railway infrastructure capacity in the single European railway area¹ ('capacity regulation') aims to create a more harmonised, transparent and market-oriented framework for capacity management across Europe, supporting growing demand for rail transport and strengthening international rail connectivity.

Achieving these objectives requires not only new business processes but also a new generation of digital tools capable of supporting increased cross-border cooperation, data exchange, planning complexity as well as international path allocation.

Digital Capacity Management (DCM) is a European initiative designed to simplify how railway capacity is planned, coordinated, and allocated across countries. Today, Applicants often need to navigate multiple national systems and processes when requesting cross-border train paths. DCM addresses this by introducing harmonised digital workflows and connecting national systems into one integrated environment, enabling a more efficient and transparent capacity management process from long-term planning through to allocation and operation.

¹ [Regulation - EU - 2026/1184 - EN - EUR-Lex](#)

For applicants, this means improved visibility of available capacity, fewer manual coordination steps, and more reliable and consistent outcomes, particularly for international services. The aim is to **make access to rail capacity simpler, faster, and more predictable**, while supporting better use of the network overall.

Following the progressing maturity of DCM, the RNE GA approved a revised Capacity Management organisational structure in December 2025. This structure introduces several updates to existing DCM groups and boards and to engage more systematically and concretely with the users of DCM and the respective tools.

Within this framework, the Capacity Planning Tool (CPT) supports the strategic capacity planning phase by bringing together key elements such as capacity models, planned capacity supply plans, and temporary capacity restrictions into a single coordinated platform. This enables infrastructure managers to align planning across borders and provide more stable and realistic capacity offers to Applicants.

The Path Coordination System (PCS) offers structured workflows that allow applicants to request cross-border capacity via a single platform. It enables both infrastructure managers (IMs) and applicants to coordinate requests and offers seamlessly and to manage the allocation process within the same tool.

2 Scope

The DCM Stakeholder Group (DCM SHG), the Capacity Planning Tool User Group (CPT UG) and the Path Coordination System User Group (PCS UG) are established to provide structured stakeholder input to the respective RNE bodies, i.e. Digital Capacity Management (DCM Technical Board), Capacity Planning Tool (CPT Change Control Board) and Path Coordination System (PCS Change Control Board).

The DCM Stakeholder Group, the Capacity Planning Tool User Group (CPT UG) and the Path Coordination System User Group (PCS UG) act in an advisory capacity and have no decision-making powers.

These specific rules of procedure are aligned with the Rules of Procedure of RNE groups.

2.1 Specific Scope of each Group

2.1.1 DCM Stakeholder Group (mirror group of the DCM Technical Board)

The DCM Stakeholder Group provides stakeholder feedback on overarching DCM developments, architecture, interfaces, implementation planning, business processes and user expectations. It serves as the primary forum for dialogue between the DCM Technical Board and future users of DCM solutions.

2.1.2 CPT User Group (mirror group of the CPT Change Control Board)

The CPT User Group provides feedback on applicant-relevant CPT functionalities in the GUI, validates business requirements and change requests, supports testing activities and advises on the readiness of new developments for deployment.

2.1.3 PCS User Group (mirror group of the PCS Change Control Board)

The PCS User Group provides feedback on applicant-relevant PCS functionalities in the GUI, validates business requirements and change requests, supports testing activities and advises on the readiness of new developments for deployment.

3 Participation in the Groups

The participants in the Groups will comprise:

- the members of the RNE DCM Technical Board, CPT Change Control Board and PCS Change Control Board appointed by the competent RNE bodies;
- participants representing operational stakeholders other than IMs.

Groups members representing operational stakeholders other than IMs, including but not limited to railway undertakings and other applicants, **shall be nominated by their company via an [online nomination form](#)**

The call is continuously open. To take part in the first evaluation round in July 2026, applications must be submitted by 24 July 2026 at 23:59 CET

Nomination must meet the following criteria:

- Participants must represent an organisation, i.e. either a company classifying as operational stakeholder or an association representing operational stakeholders; participation is not limited to organisations which are member of ABCR but participation in a personal capacity is not possible;
- Demonstrable expertise within the scope of each Group i.e. in the area of capacity management (Chapter II of the capacity regulation), including in particular knowledge of DCM, software architecture, DCM/business area, usage (or future usage) of CPT and PCS tools;
- Availability of appropriate resources to actively contribute to the Groups;
- Working-level proficiency in English.

In the interest of effective and efficient work within each Group, RNE reserves the right to select participants based on merit, i.e. according to the four criteria indicated above, and with a view to ensuring an adequate representation of:

- types of operational stakeholders (RUs, non-RU applicants, terminal operators, etc.);
- segments of the rail transport market (passenger / freight, domestic / cross-border, short- / long-distance etc.);
- different regions of the EU.

Participants may coordinate their contributions to the work of each Group with other organisations, with a view to reflect a broader range of requirements and positions.

Applications received after the deadline indicated above will be considered for as long as the maximum number is not reached.

3.1 Participants in the DCM Stakeholder Group (DCM SG)

Members of the corresponding RNE body DCM Technical Board (RNE members).

Representatives of organisations representing operational stakeholders other than IMs, including but not limited to railway undertakings and other applicants, individual applicants with relevant expertise in DCM and (future) users of the DCM: Software Architects, DCM/business area experts.

3.2 Participants in the Capacity Planning Tool User Group (CPT UG)

Members of the corresponding RNE body CPT Change Control Board (RNE members).

Representatives of organisations representing operational stakeholders other than IMs, including but not limited to railway undertakings and other applicants, individual applicants with relevant expertise in DCM and (future) users of the CPT: Business area experts and/or expert CPT users.

3.3 Participants in the Path Coordination System User Group (PCS UG)

Members of the corresponding RNE body PCS Change Control Board (RNE members).

Representatives of organisations representing operational stakeholders other than IMs, including but not limited to railway undertakings and other applicants, individual applicants with relevant expertise in DCM and (future) users of developments of functions relevant in PCS for non-IMs.

4 Tasks

Each Group will have dedicated tasks. As an overview, the Groups shall:

- provide feedback on developments, functionalities and implementation plans;
- define business requirements and user needs;
- support information exchange between RNE, RNE members and users of DCM and CPT and PCS tools;
- work on common communication strategies;
- where relevant, support testing activities and provide feedback on readiness for deployment;
- Provide common report on the development of CPT and PCS to the ABCR.

5 Working methods and organisation

Each Group will be chaired by the chairmen of the RNE DCM Technical Board, the RNE CPT Change Control Board and the RNE PCS Change Control Board, respectively. The chairmen will coordinate and steer the work of each Group.

The agenda and supporting documents should be circulated in advance of meetings.

Meeting summaries and action points shall be prepared and shared with participants after each meeting, and where relevant, published on RNE website.

The Groups shall work through meetings and digital collaboration tools.

Meetings may be held physically, virtually or in hybrid format.

Each Group shall normally meet two to three times per year. Additional meetings and training sessions may be organised when required.

The following general principles and working methods provide the basis for the work in each Group:

- participants representing IMs and operational stakeholders contribute actively to the work in each Group;
- active participation in regular meetings (including preparation and follow-up);
- active participation in specific meetings and events such as live simulations;
- collecting and consolidating feedback within the organisation(s) which participants represent, notably on the practical feasibility and readiness of usage of functions discussed and developed in PCT UG and PCS UG

RNE continuously coordinates (intermediate) working results of the work of each Group with the respective Technical Board and Change Control Boards and relevant other RNE working groups through an iterative process.