



2011 International Practicum on Implementing  
High-Speed Rail in the United States



AMERICAN  
PUBLIC  
TRANSPORTATION  
ASSOCIATION



INTERNATIONAL UNION  
OF RAILWAYS

Track 201

# Standards for High Speed Rail Systems

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## Standards for high speed rail

Important preoccupation and subject very often requested by UIC members

Standards for railways and the many “w”:

- What
- Why
- Which
- Who
- When



## What are standards?

- Railway Standards is a document produced to define mandatory requirements to conceive, build and operate any railway system
- It can consist of a rule, guideline, procedure or definition
- Standards help to make life simpler and to increase the reliability and the effectiveness of the railway systems



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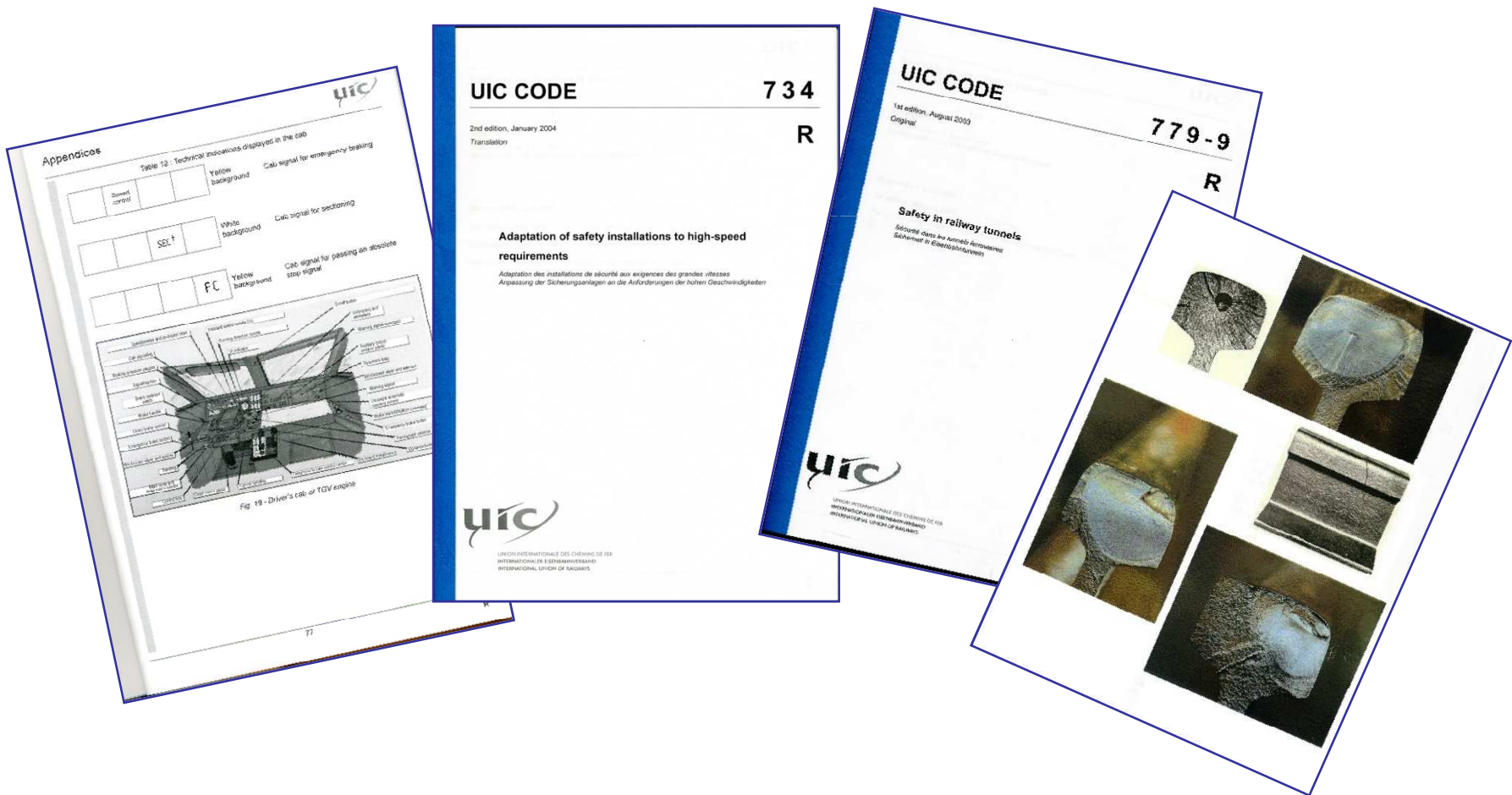
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## UIC Leaflets





## Why standards?

Standards are required to give as much as possible homogeneity, by accomplishing the 3 main objectives:

- Safety
- Operability (technical aspects)
- Economy



## Which standards?

- Many different types:    Technical  
   Operational  
   Legal
- Many different levels:    National  
   International (global?)
- Many different families: EU  
   Japan  
   USA (AAR)  
   China  
   Russia  
   ...



# Who is to produce standards?

Authority / Authorities

International / National

In principle, all the possible actors should be involved, bringing together the experience and expertise of all interested parties (operators, producers, users, regulators, etc.)





# When standards must be produced?

From the beginning of the conception of the HS system

In many different steps

Actions: always, at any time

Updating and adapting standards must be a permanent activity





# Standards for high speed systems

- Necessity and objectives of the (specific?) railway normative for high speed
- Different levels of responsibility and different levels of commitment
- Types and level of normative: technical (infrastructure, rolling stock, operation, etc.), commercial, legal, industrial, etc.
- Railway normative actors: conception, elaboration, validation and application. How?
- The future of the international railway normative (European, global)
- Toward global railway standards. Is it possible?



# Standards for high speed systems

New standards or extrapolation?

(i.e. UIC Leaflet 518 for more than  
300 km/h)

What's the role of UIC Leaflets, in  
Europe, outside?



# Standards for high speed systems

Application:

- How?
- When?
- Who?
- ...



# Discussion on High Speed Standards

- Workshop in Beijing  
UIC + ERA + MOR / CARS  
10th – 11th May 2010 – Preliminary
- Workshop at UIC Headquarters:  
UIC + ERA + MOR / CARS + FRA (USA)  
+ Japan + Russia + UNIFE + ...  
15th October 2010 – Exploratory
- Next steps: Second workshop, training,...



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## Track 201 – Module V:

# Let's discuss standards for high speed