

5L next – next generation of freight wagons.

Automatic Freight Coupler

Wabtec Freight Europe



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Market changes, such as the fast-paced innovation on the roads or rising customer demands, are posing major challenges for European rail freight companies. But opportunities opened up by new technology offer great potential for developing the efficiency of freight services.

Innovative freight wagons are key to being able to take full advantage of the Internet of Things (IoT) and automation. As part of the 5L initiative, SBB Cargo, Hupac, VTG and the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) as well as many suppliers are developing the next generation of freight wagons.

The next generation is being completely redesigned. The chassis, for example, is considerably lighter than that of a conventional standard flat wagon. The middle segment is not welded but riveted and bolted – just like the light-weight production methods from the lorry sector. SBB Cargo's extensive modernisation steps offer major bene-fits for customers, wagon keepers, railway undertakings and infrastructure. Find out more at www.sbbcargo.com/ innovation

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The lightest Automatic Freight Coupler in the market can transmit 1'500 kN buff and 1'000 kN draw forces. By using this coupler, the weight of the previous system with buffers and draw gear can be reduced from 750 to 520 kg per wagon (2 Couplers).

The Automatic Freight Coupler from Wabtec results from our extensive return of experience on cushion bars and automatic front couplers with Schwab-coupler head. The coupling mechanism can be easily uncoupled manually or automatically under a draw force up to 300 kN. The 260 kg Automatic Freight Coupler has a reversible energy absorption of 50 kJ in buff and 22 kJ in draw direction. The closed design of the Schwab head protects the coupling mechanism against snow, rain, ice and dirt. This innovative coupler with anti-rotation device and vertical support allows a coupling in curves up to 150 m. The interface to the wagon frame is made of 8 screws and has been used for freight wagons cushion bars since 1998. Existing wagons can be quickly converted to this new central coupling system. If required, the draw force can be increased up to 1'500 kN and the energy absorption adapted for crash scenarios with an irreversible energy absorption. DAC4 digital coupling interface is also available.

Company.

Wabtec is a diversified, global leader in equipment, components, services, software and systems for the transportation industry. Drawing on nearly four centuries of collective experience across Wabtec, GE Transportation and Faiveley Transport, the company is paving the way in safety, efficiency, reliability and productivity. As an integrated solutions partner, Wabtec provides innovative solutions for the transportation industry by improving interoperability, efficiency and competitiveness for customers.

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