

# Rail\_\_\_\_\_ Partners with Ukraine



20 June 2024

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Thanks to all corporate donors to Rail Partners with Ukraine who made significant contributions to the Global Ukraine Rail Taskforce, helping to deliver 7,500 food packages to Ukrainian Railways workers and their families



With thanks to our corporate donors:

#### GOLD DONORS



#### SILVER DONORS



#### BRONZE DONORS



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# Foreword



David Brown in Kyiv

Back in September of 2023 the UK rail industry came together at the Rail Partners with Ukraine event which raised over £106,000 in donations for the Global Ukraine Rail Task Force, which went on to fund more than 7,500 food parcels for Ukrainian Railways workers and their families. I did not expect that a few months later, in January, I would have the opportunity to go to Kyiv myself as part of a Rail Partners delegation, to see that aid beginning to arrive.

I only had the honour of visiting Ukraine for a short time, but it's an experience that will stay with me for a lifetime. It was an enormous privilege to speak directly with some of the frontline staff, managers and trade union representatives, and to learn more about how they have kept their railway running in the face of unimaginable challenges.

It's no wonder that the Ukrzaliznytsia's workers have earned themselves the title 'the iron people'.

As part of the wider railway family, we should all share a sense of admiration and pride for what our colleagues in Ukraine are achieving. We have a shared responsibility to continue supporting their efforts, particularly as the conflict progresses and their needs evolve.

Today's event is an opportunity to hear directly from representatives of Ukrainian Railways who are working to support the war effort. As I'm sure you will agree, we must continue to do what we can for them, whether that's through further financial aid and food parcels, or through sharing our experiences and expertise as the country strives to rebuild.

**David Brown**

Managing director UK trains, Arriva

# About Rail Partners with Ukraine - September 2023

The Rail Partners with Ukraine event took place on 12 September 2023, welcoming senior representatives of the railway industry to a reception in aid of the Global Ukraine Rail Task Force, raising funds to deliver food parcels to Ukrainian rail workers and their families.

Attendees heard a powerful presentation from representatives of Ukrainian Railways about delivering an operational railway during the current conflict.

We are pleased that, with the support of the UK rail industry, we were able to raise £106,485 for the Global Ukraine Rail Task Force, with help from both corporate donors, listed on the inside cover of this booklet and individual donors as well.

On 10 January 2024, Rail Partners chief executive, Andy Bagnall, travelled, along with Steve Montgomery, managing director of First Rail, and David Brown, managing director UK trains, Arriva, to Ukraine to show solidarity with Ukrainian railway workers and to see first hand the realities they face while supporting the war effort.

As of May this year, nearly 7,500 food parcels have been delivered to Ukrainian Railway employees and their families, paid for by donations from British rail companies.

The food packages consist of a variety of essentials such as oil, sugar, flour, salt, pasta, rice, corn and wheat cereals, canned fish and meat, pate, tea, and biscuits, all sourced in Ukraine. Some of the funding has also paid for household cleaning products for rail workers living in temporary accommodation having been forced to flee their homes due to the fighting.

Today's event represents another opportunity to hear from Ukrainian Railways representatives and the ongoing support by British rail companies for their Ukrainian rail colleagues as the conflict continues unabated.



## The Global Ukraine Rail Task Force

The Global Ukraine Rail Task Force was set up at the start of the war to coordinate technical, mechanical, and policy support for Ukrainian freight and passenger rail companies, as well as refugee trains.

Subsequently the Task Force has been working with WE AID – founded by Phineo, the German branch of the leading charitable organisation United Way – on a donation campaign to raise funds for the Ukrainian railways.

**The Task Force's Original campaign raised €100,000 – equivalent to 6,000 food packages, but there are more railway families on the front line still in need of this aid.**

GLOBAL UKRAINE  
RAIL TASK FORCE

To make a donation directly to the Global Ukraine Rail Task Force scan the QR code



The following organisations pledged significant donations to the Global Ukraine Rail Task Force food package campaign. Their donations are supporting Ukrainian rail workers on the front line.

## Gold Donors



Since entering the UK rail market in 2000, Arriva now operates 285 trains and covers around 9% of the entire network (by total revenue), with services ranging from rural commuter lines to long-distance and inter-urban routes. It is the only owning group running services under all operating models in use in the UK.

Arriva's companies include:



**Chiltern Railways** operates a number of services around the South East of England from Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and some long-distance services to the West Midlands. Chiltern's main terminals are Birmingham Snow Hill and London Marylebone but it also operates additional services to Oxford and Kidderminster.



Operating out of Birmingham New Street, **CrossCountry** offers routes across the UK stretching from Aberdeen to Penzance and from Stansted to Cardiff, including Newcastle, Leeds, Sheffield, Manchester, Nottingham, Bristol, Southampton and Edinburgh.



**Grand Central** reaches the parts of the country other services don't – directly linking large cities in Yorkshire and the North East with London, often for the first time in years. Grand Central's first route was launched in December 2007 and linked London Kings Cross with York and the North East. In May 2010, this was joined by our West Riding service, linking Doncaster, Bradford and West Yorkshire with London – most recently adding Peterborough in 2024.



**Arriva Rail London** is the train operating company responsible for running the London Overground network under a Concession Agreement with Transport for London (TfL). Arriva Rail London can cater for rail journeys across 23 of London's 33 boroughs.



**FirstGroup** is a leading private sector provider of public transport. It is the UK's largest rail operator and one of its most experienced, running all types of passenger rail: long-distance, commuter, regional and sleeper services.

FirstGroup operates three Government contracted operations (Avanti West Coast, GWR, SWR) and two open access routes (Hull Trains and Lumo). Its businesses are vital to communities and the services it provides are critical to delivering wider economic, social and environmental goals.

FirstGroup's companies include:



**Avanti West Coast** is part of FirstGroup's joint venture with Trenitalia known as the West Coast Partnership. It runs intercity services on the West Coast Main Line, and includes the West Coast Partnership Development, which is the 'shadow operator' for HS2.



**GWR** provides high speed, commuter, regional and branch line train services, carrying commuters, leisure and business customers across the Great Western rail franchise area, which includes South Wales, the West Country, the Cotswolds, and large parts of Southern England.



The **South Western Rail** franchise was awarded to FirstGroup and MTR in March 2017. As well as commuters, SWR transports leisure travellers across the region, to many tourist and heritage sites, and the numerous major sporting and social events that take place along the route every year.



In its 21st anniversary year, **Hull Trains** continues to fill a vital gap in the market, making 94 journeys a week between London, Beverley, Hull and intermediate stations, and transporting more than a million people annually – an increase of more than ten times since inception.



In October 2021 FirstGroup launched **Lumo**, a new, 100% electric, open access rail service between London and Edinburgh on the East Coast Main Line. In Lumo's first full year of operation, its services carried more than 1m passengers. Lumo provides low carbon, affordable, long-distance travel, supporting the aims of delivering for the passenger, playing a crucial role in economic recovery and moving towards a zero carbon world.

# Silver Donors



Govia, a partnership between The Go-Ahead Group and Keolis, operates Govia Thameslink Railway which delivers one in five UK rail journeys through its Thameslink, Southern, Great Northern and Gatwick Express services.



Transport UK, formerly operating as Abellio UK, is a leading private sector transport operator serving millions of rail and bus passengers every day. Owned and operated in the UK, the group runs Greater Anglia, West Midlands Trains, East Midlands Railway, and Merseyrail, as well as 11% of London's bus routes. The company has been serving customers for over 20 years and is at the forefront of creating the future of transport in the UK.



# Bronze Donors





# Supporting the Iron People of the Ukrainian Railway



Hosting Rail Partners with Ukraine was a proud moment not only for my organisation, but for the wider membership. Hearing from Ukrainian Railways (UZ) representatives at the event was an eye opening experience, so when we were invited to go and see the challenges UZ are facing at close quarters, I for one could not refuse.

On arriving in Kyiv, our delegation met Oleksandr Pertsovskiy, head of UZ's passenger services. Leading us on a tour of Kyiv station, he gave us a window onto the reality of the invasion, showing us a passenger carriage that had been used to evacuate civilians fleeing the Russian tank column that advanced on Kyiv from Belarus in the first month of the war. It bore the scars of the moment it was attacked, riddled with the holes of bullets and shrapnel.

## Andy Bagnall

Chief executive, Rail Partners

But he also showed us, at the other end of the station, their attempts to run the railway as normally as possible. The grand waiting hall of the station was still given over to a spectacular Christmas exhibition, and more permanently, the ticket office had converted to a children's rail-themed play area and library – an attempt to offer a better experience of the railways for women and children are increasingly making return visits, and to ensure the enduring memory of the railway is not just the trauma of evacuation and separation.

We had a small amount of time to drive around the city and see some of the damage from air strikes, including the most recent damage from New Year's Eve less than a fortnight ago – underlining that the war continues even as it drops slowly out of our daily news bulletins.

We also met Oleksii Semerun, the leader of UZ's main labour union the Trade Union of Railway Workers and Transport Builders of Ukraine who explained how the contents of the food parcels we have funded were sourced and assembled before being cargoed eastwards and distributed to staff of UZ through the union's regional and local structures. It is a great example of the union and company working in partnership.

Recipients of the aid include engineers working at or near the front line to repair damaged infrastructure or keep the trains moving, carrying men and supplies to the front and evacuating the wounded in the other direction. Others are rail workers and their families forced to flee from territory now occupied by the Russian army. Other recipients still are rail workers who left UZ to join the armed forces and returned wounded and unable to work, and the families of workers who hadn't returned at all.

I was proud to see our logo on those boxes. We could see from our visit that it was a drop of aid in the ocean of Ukraine's need. But it is what we were able to do. We must continue our efforts and we are so pleased to give more UK railway colleagues the chance to hear directly from those involved in the war effort through this event today.

Rail Partners will continue to support our colleagues in UZ however we can. If you work in rail, or the supply chain, or the accessibility space, or if you are just interested and think you can help, we would urge you to get in touch.

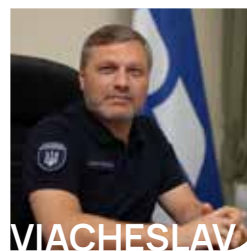
# Rail Partners with Ukraine at Rail Live

Welcome to Rail Partners with Ukraine at Rail Live 2024 – a chance to hear from those on the ground what it is like to run a railway during a conflict, and contribute to a crucial aspect of the war effort.

Since the war began Ukrzaliznytsia has been delivering passengers, troops and freight including essential supplies all around Ukraine – and keeping the lines running in the face of airstrikes that directly target rail infrastructure.

Senior members of the Ukrainian Railways management board join British rail industry representatives involved in supporting their efforts and discuss their experiences. They will also touch on the challenges Ukrainian rail workers continue to face as a result of the ongoing conflict with Russia – and the support they need going forward.

## Speakers



**VIACHESLAV  
Yeromin**

**Member of the management board (freight transportation), JSC 'Ukrainian Railways'  
Head of the Ukrainian delegation**

Viacheslav Yeromin graduated from the Kharkiv State Academy of Railway Transport and has almost 30 years of experience in the field of railway transport. He went from being a station duty officer to becoming part of the top management of JSC 'Ukrainian Railways'.

Mr Yeromin takes part in the formation and implementation of the unified policy regarding management of the transportation process and organisation of coordinated operational work of the company, its regional branches and their structural subdivisions. He also manages the development and implementation of the unified tariff policy of the company and is responsible for the increase in the volumes of freight transportation, as well as for the growth of income received from cargo transportation and other services.

Additionally, Viacheslav Yeromin is in charge of establishing mutually beneficial international cooperation and expanding ties with foreign partners in the field of logistics and cargo transportation.



**DAVID  
Brown**

## Managing director UK trains, Arriva

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David joined Arriva in September 2017 as managing director of Arriva Rail North and then as Arriva's Group communications director before being appointed managing director UK trains in October 2020. He is responsible for the leadership and development of Arriva's UK rail businesses which include Arriva Traincare, Chiltern, CrossCountry, Arriva Rail London and Grand Central. He is also a member of the Arriva Management Board.

In January 2024 David was appointed chair of the Rail Delivery Group, with responsibility for the leadership and effectiveness of the board and providing strategic direction for the organisation.

Prior to joining Arriva, David was chief executive of Transport for the North (TfN) He has held prominent leadership roles across all modes of transport in both the public and the private sectors including chief executive of Merseytravel and director general of the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive,. He is highly skilled in stakeholder engagement, strategic planning, transport operations and sustainability.



**ANDY  
Bagnall**

## Chief executive, Rail Partners

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Andy is the chief executive of Rail Partners with over twenty years of experience within government, across the private sector and most recently as the director general at the Rail Delivery Group (RDG), where he coordinated policy and advocacy activities.

Andy has held a number of policy and communications jobs, initially joining Rail Delivery Group as the director of strategy and communications and then becoming chief strategy officer. Prior to this Andy was KPMG's director of external affairs and was previously a special adviser to the UK government, serving two cabinet ministers in three departments over four years.



**OLEG  
Yakovenko**

## Director, strategy and transformation, JSC 'Ukrainian Railways'

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Oleg Yakovenko is an experienced leader with over 20 years of expertise driving strategic transformation and growth across complex industries. At JSC 'Ukrzaliznytsia', he oversees the development and implementation of the company's strategy, as well as structural changes to align Ukrzaliznytsia with railway reforms according to EU directives. He is leading the development of critical eurointegration railway investment projects for Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Transport calls.

His prior experience includes leading strategic planning and business development initiatives for both public and private sector organizations, including DK 'Ukroboronprom' and the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade. Oleg Yakovenko is a passionate advocate for a modern and efficient Ukrainian railway system, evidenced by his contributions to national policy development. His strong academic foundation includes an MBA in Corporate Finance from the University of Dallas and a Master's Degree in International Economics from Kiev University.



**HANNAH  
Moxon  
(Event chair)**

## Director of external affairs, Rail Partners

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Hannah has over 15 years experience in communications and public affairs across multiple sectors, including nearly a decade in the GB rail industry. Prior to the launch of Rail Partners, Hannah was chief of staff at the Rail Delivery Group, where she co-led the communications function, leading specifically on advocacy, external engagement and government relations.

# About Ukrainian Railways (UZ)

**Ukrainian Railways (UZ) is a state owned, joint stock company administering railway infrastructure and rail transport in Ukraine. Ukrainian Railways is the world's sixth largest rail passenger transporter and world's seventh largest freight transporter.**

Since the start of the conflict on 24 February 2022, over 6,000km of railway tracks have been damaged and become non-operational in Ukraine and hundreds of objects of railway infrastructure have been damaged. UZ employs a workforce of 230,000, of which more than 300 have sadly lost their lives, 19 of them while on duty, and hundreds more have been injured.

The Ukrainian Railways' contribution to the war effort should not be underestimated. Since the beginning of the conflict they have:

- » transported over 4 million people to safety – 1 million of these being children – and an estimated 120,000 pets
- » radically reprofiled and adapted their operational and infrastructure timelines to ensure minimal disruption to services
- » within 8 days established a hospital train to transport the injured, sick and medical professionals
- » rebuilt the bridge at Irpin, a strategic suburb west of Kyiv, in 29 days – a task which would normally take months
- » enabled over 200 delegations of world leaders and diplomats to travel into Ukraine as well as transporting President Zelensky
- » initiated the Children's Railway initiative to engage children in the railway so that their association isn't just one of evacuation and war, but to demonstrate the potential of rail for adventure and fun. They have an ambition to become the most child friendly railway in the world
- » have been critical in the movement of military personnel and materials as well as civilian freight traffic such as grain exports

# About Rail Partners

Rail Partners exists to make the railway better by harnessing the expertise and creativity of private sector operators for the benefit of those who use the railway, passengers and freight customers, and those who pay for it, including taxpayers.

Rail Partners provides advocacy and policy solutions for its private sector passenger owning group and freight company members. Rail Partners additionally provides technical services to train operating companies in both the public and private sectors.

# Rail Partners



# Rail\_\_\_\_\_

# Partners

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