

Eurailspeed

Parallel Session A.2

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Session A.2.- Managing the supply of High Speed Rail Services

Merits-Prifis Special Group

MERITS(Multiple European Railway Integrated Timetable Storage)

PRIFIS(PRICES and Fares Information System)

M. Bussolo, UIC Director

Tuesday 8 november 2005

Merits-Prifis Special Group set up

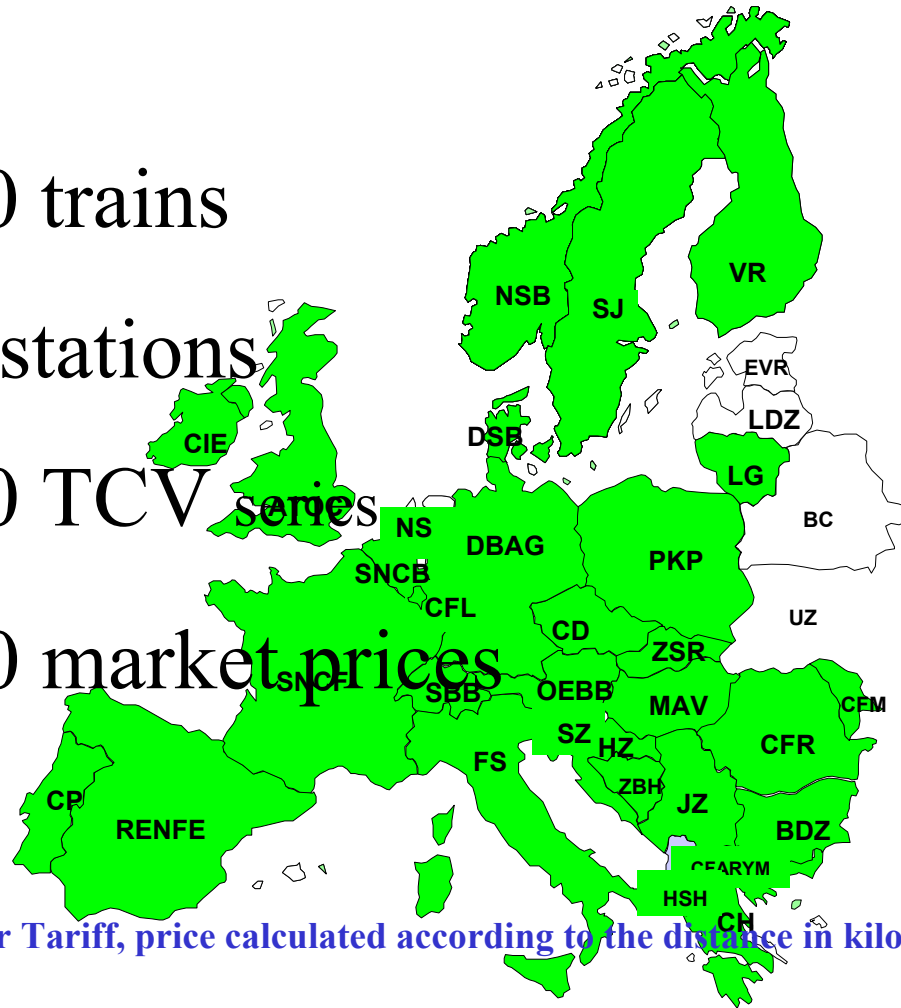
- **The approach adopted for Merits-Prifis**
- **The main objective in this work is to set up a ticket sales system for European railways similarly to the system used in the air transport sector**
- **It was decided in 2000 to begin with a phased approach in order to develop a product, perform tests, commission the product and provide the members concerned with the service connected with each part of the product, step by step**
- **The first step was to roll out the Merits timetable system, a project which, after the software was developed, was managed in a Special Group for operation of the system**
- **Afterwards, Prifis was developed for fare information and to link fares and timetable information**
- **The next phases will focus on seat availability, reservations and ticket sales, as and when members decide**
- **The close connection between Merits and Prifis led to creation of a single Merits-Prifis Special Group to place operation of the existing system and future development work under the responsibility of a single entity**

Merits-Prifis OBJECTIVES

- **Create a European-wide integrated database containing prices and fares linked with MERITS timetable data**
- **Provide users in the trade (via intranet) and the general public (via internet) with a single point of contact for timetable and price information**
- **Provide the general public (via Internet) with unbiased display of timetable and price information (3rd railway package)**
- **Eliminate the numerous bilateral exchanges of data between RUs (Railway Undertakings)**
- **Share system development and operation costs**

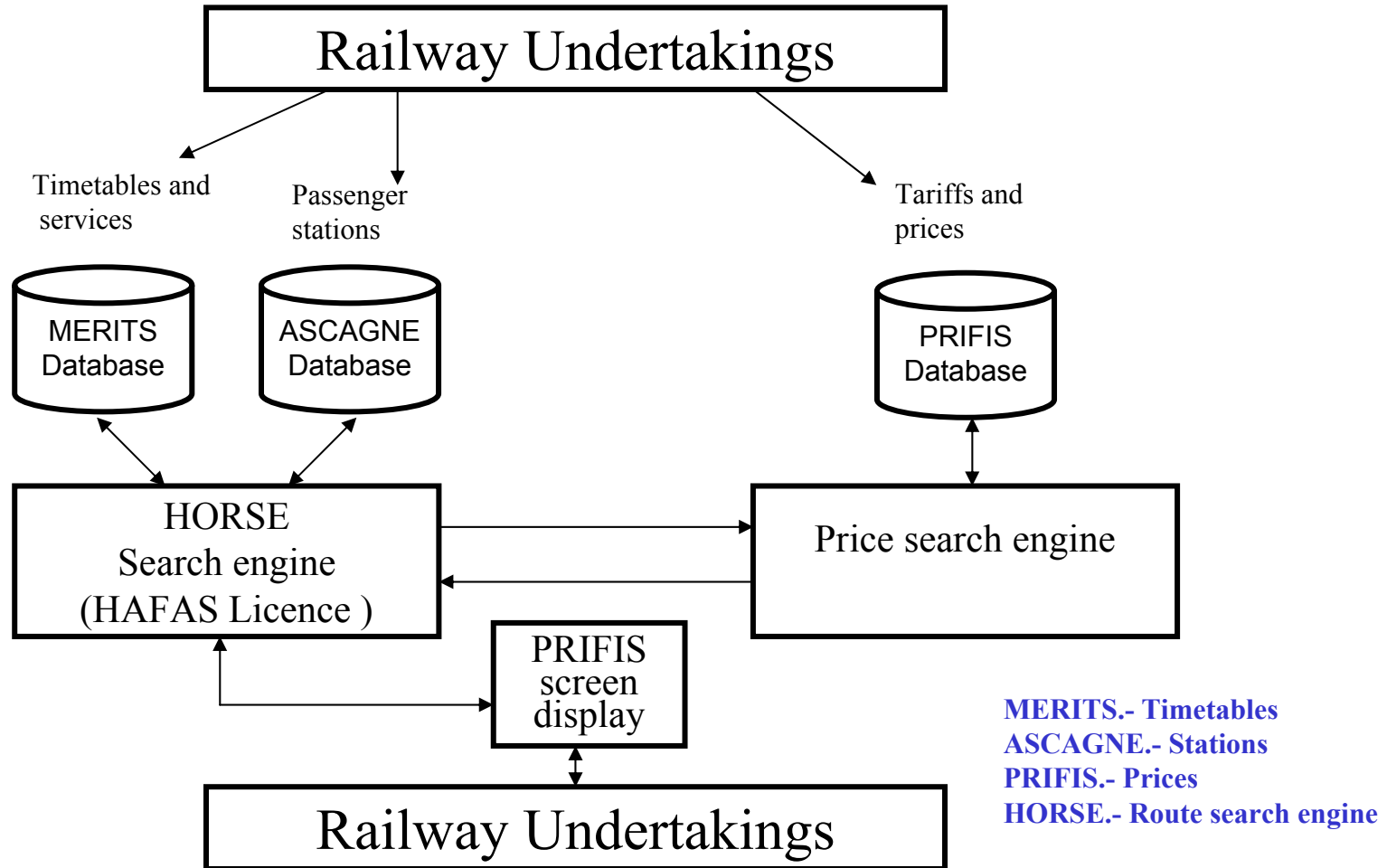
Participating countries

- 350,000 trains
- 30,000 stations
- 117,000 TCV series
- 770,000 market prices



TCV: Common Passenger Tariff, price calculated according to the distance in kilometres between origin and destination points

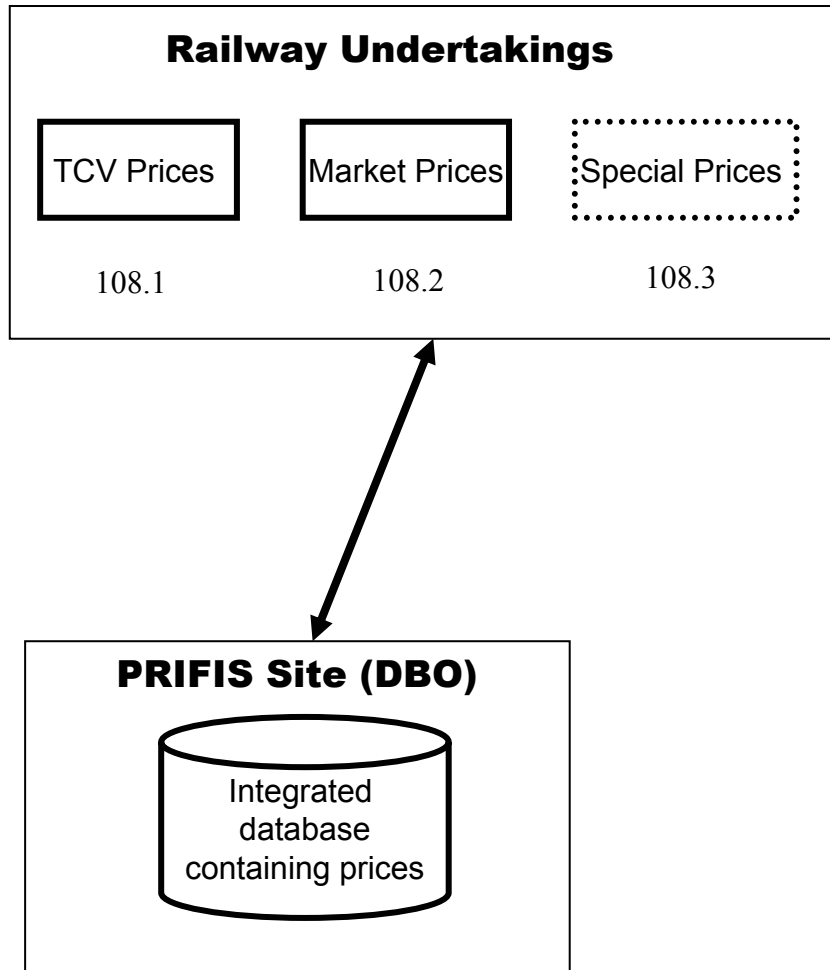
Merits-Prifis Components



MERITS

- **At the start of the project, the objective of Merits was to store the timetable information of participating RUs in a single database.**
- **However, changes had to be made to establish the link with Prifis.**
- **Operational since January 2002**

Supply of data to Prifis



TCV Prices - UIC Leaflet 108.1
Market Prices - UIC Leaflet 108.2
Special Prices - UIC Leaflet 108.3
Bilateral agreements (non-TCV)
Tickets with rebate entitlements

How Prifis works:

