



Montreuil, le 10 octobre 2016

Mr. Geir ISAKSEN
CEO of the Norwegian State Railways

Mr. Arne FOSEN
CEO of Cargonet

Dear Sirs,

My union, Fédération CGT des Cheminots, has been informed by our colleagues from the National Union of Norwegian Locomotivemen (NLF) about the dispute and ongoing strike in your companies.

We understand that the core issue is about accepting a common national standard for locomotive drivers training.

The position of my union is that the training for a locomotive driver certification, and also the certification of other safety critical staff, is of outmost importance for railway safety. You represent the traditional state owned companies in Norway, and have so far a good safety record.

We strongly encourage you to seek a solution to these issues, as has been reached with other private and state owned companies in your country. The railway sector must not be based upon competition on safety standards with the primary goal of cutting costs. The training should be standardized to facilitate a high safety standard, and at the same time allow drivers to be employed throughout the industry without the obstacles posed by different levels of safety training requirements.

You should, as big players in the Norwegian railway market, take a special responsibility in acknowledging this.

We, as responsible railway workers unions, strongly support our NLF colleagues in their strike. We will follow this conflict very closely, together with NSBs efforts to establish daughter companies as players on the international market. We will consider further actions in support of our Norwegian colleagues.

Social dumping on safety and training will never be accepted!

Sylvain ESNAULT
Federal Secretary