

Press Release

<Mehdorn calls for the development of efficient and clean technologies for a low-carbon future

Discussion at the International Transport Forum in Leipzig • DB AG target is to emit 20 per cent less CO₂ by 2020

(Leipzig/Berlin, 29 May 2008) Hartmut Mehdorn, Chairman of the Management Board and CEO of Deutsche Bahn AG, has called upon science and industry to join forces in the development of new carbon-neutral drive technologies. "We need efficient and clean technologies for a low-carbon future," he demanded today, speaking to experts at the International Transport Forum in Leipzig. "Innovations are drivers of economic strength with extremely high benefits for society. This not only safeguards mobility and economic growth, but also makes a crucial contribution towards averting the impending climate change disaster. We therefore have to regard climate protection as an opportunity for generating new impetus for future action," continued Mehdorn.

Furthermore, the intelligent combination of rail, ship, air and road helps to reduce the impact on the climate caused by transport. Mehdorn added, "We have to learn to organise transport in a new way to make it climate-friendly. We have to push ahead with new technical developments and tap into new, carbon-free energy sources.

Transport accounts for roughly 20 per cent of CO₂ emissions worldwide and is therefore one of the greatest generators of greenhouse gases. Addressing the politicians, industrial bosses and experts from all over the world attending the event in Leipzig, Mehdorn therefore demanded that all the different parties involved should join forces to enable transports which have minimum adverse impact on the environment.

"Climate and environmental protection are central corporate targets of the DB Group," commented Mehdorn. "At DB, we have announced our plans to reduce CO₂ emissions by 20 per cent by the year 2020 compared with the 2006 figure. To do so, however, we are not counting solely on rail as the most environment friendly transport mode. On the contrary, we believe in an intelligent combination of all transport modes, using each individual mode where it makes most economic and ecological sense so that rail, road, air and ocean transport complement each other to create the optimum logistics solution in each case. That concept is proving increasingly successful. Our Transportation and Logistics Division organises worldwide transport chains and consequently achieves substantial energy savings with the corresponding reduction in CO₂ emissions." In recent years, Deutsche Bahn has already achieved substantial CO₂ savings in the rail transport sector, reducing emissions by more than 25 per cent between 1992 and 2002.

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