Meeting report

7 May 2015

Meeting with Trade Committee of Unife (The European Rail Industry Association)

Participants:
- Unife, The European Rail Industry Association: 4.1(b)
- Unife Industry members: Alstom, Siemens, Bombardier, Thales, Finmeccanica, Vossloh, Lucchini RS, SKF, Fogtec,
- National railway associations: MAFEX, ASSIFER and FIF
- DG TRADE B.3: 4.1(b)

Topic: TTIP Government procurement and rail sector

Summary:
- Short tour de table of all representatives
- 4.1(b) gave a short presentation on TTIP Public procurement, in particular EU objectives and issues on Buy American laws.
- A short discussion with Unife members followed. They gave their views on practical obstacles with regard to market access in US in the rail sector.
- The legislative proposal on Grow America Act was specifically mentioned. In general, concern was expressed with regard to higher domestic content requirements and complex waiver processes.
- The specific case of Boston metro-procurement was raised.
- DG TRADE took note of concerns with respect to the Buy America preferences and new legislative initiatives in the US.