

FEDERAL OFFICE OF TRANSPORT (FOT)

DEVELOPMENT OF THE RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE LANDSCAPE - REVIEW OF THESESES



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| Client | Federal Office of Transport (FOT) |
| Processing period | 2018 |
| Project costs | approx. CHF 120'000 |

Performance agreements exist between the Swiss federal government and the approximately 40 railway infrastructure operators (ROIs) in Switzerland to finance the planned, unfunded costs of operations and infrastructure maintenance. Against this backdrop, the Federal Office of Transport surmises the existence of unutilised potential for optimisation in today's decentralised organisational structure.

This potential for optimisation is specified through three theses:

- I : Standardisation increases productivity
- II : Differentiated standards and local knowledge can lower costs
- III : Cooperation and professionalisation can increase efficiency and quality

The FOT mandated R+R and INFRAS with the task of reviewing these theses for selected ROIs with respect to cost efficiency and quality of construction projects, operational management, trackway and security installations.

The experiences of the selected ROIs were evaluated and the quantitative data analysed and compared via a benchmarking process.

It is not possible to summarily verify or reject the theses in question. All three theses are justifiable, but sometimes in different categories. A high level of standardisation, for instance, may be beneficial to the efficiency of both an individual ROI as well as between ROIs in the case of large or tightly connected organisations. For small and more independent ROIs the standards may be too expensive, however. How efficiency is attained largely depends on the specific requirements of the individual ROIs.