

OCORA

Open CCS On-board Reference Architecture

Introduction to OCORA Gamma Release

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References

The following references are used in this document:

- [1] OCORA-10-001-Gamma – Release Notes
- [2] OCORA-30-005-Gamma – Alliances
- [3] OCORA-40-001-Gamma – Architecture
- [4] OCORA-90-001-Gamma – Question and Answers
- [5] OCORA-90-002-Gamma – Glossary
- [6] TSI CCS: 02016R0919 — EN — 16.06.2019 — 001.001 — 1: COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2016/919 of 27 May 2016 on the technical specification for interoperability relating to the 'control-command and signalling' subsystems of the rail system in the European Union, amended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/776 of 16 May 2019 L 139I
- [7] OCORA-40-006-Beta-CCS-TCMS-Interface – ETCS Functionality (SS119)
- [8] OCORA-10-008-Gap-Analysis-ETCS-TCMS-Interface-Specification-vs-UNISIG SS119

1 Introduction

1.1 Document context and purpose

This document is published as part of the OCORA Gamma release, together with the documents listed in the Release Notes [\[1\]](#). It is the third release of these documents which means that they are still under construction and will be further refined in consecutive releases. New releases of this document and topic specific documentation will be developed in a modular and iterative approach.

The reason for publishing OCORA products in releases is to periodically provide information on the OCORA philosophy, on the progress made in different work streams and to enable the audience to provide us with their valuable feedback. Your feedback is much appreciated since it will allow us to further improve our work and prevent potential mistakes.

This document aims to provide the reader with a comprehensive reference to the approach the OCORA members envisage to achieve the objectives defined in the OCORA Memorandum of Understanding. These objectives concentrate on enabling the rapid automation and digitalisation of rail products and services in order to reduce total cost of ownership, increase productivity and customer value and control investment and operational risks.

The aim of this document is to introduce the reader into the OCORA Gamma Release, including basic principles ruling the OCORA collaboration and fundamental concepts of OCORA design.

1.2 Why should I read this document?

This document is addressed to both decision makers and experts in the CCS domain and to any other person, interested in the OCORA effort to boost rail transportation productivity and profitability, ensuring an enduringly competitive and sustainable rail sector in Europe. That requires affordable CCS On-board equipment that supports high performance, safe and secure rail services to satisfy ever changing (end) user requirements. This document illustrates what principles and criteria the OCORA partners adhere to in order to achieve these overall, corporate objectives.

The reader should also be aware of the Glossary [\[5\]](#), and can consolidate the Question and Answers document [\[4\]](#).

1.3 OCORA naming conventions

OCORA has adopted much of the terminology developed by RCA. This new terminology has been developed to free the development architecture team of the normative, traditional way of architecture development that is used in e.g. the TSI's, for the on-board specifically e.g. Subset 026 of [\[6\]](#).

Many traditional architectures, like the ones mentioned, approach logical, functional and technical system decomposition and structuring in a seemingly free format, intermingling them without apparent guidelines or design principles. The RCA approach forces both the architect and the engineer to duly consider from what ontological perspective and at what level of decomposition the CCS system is defined, enabling a more precise breakdown taking account of its environment.

In OCORA too, this approach has proven its value, sparking discussion on how to unambiguously define and model core CCS functions. Nevertheless, it is inevitable to answer the question on how the RCA and OCORA architectures relate to the traditional approaches. The fact that in OCORA discussions the divide between the traditional and the RCA / OCORA approach had to be frequently bridged, will be reflected in the OCORA Gamma release documentation and help the reader to understand the OCORA approach. Moreover, the OCORA team did its utmost to provide useful and comprehensive information on the RCA / OCORA terminology in the Glossary [\[5\]](#). In case of doubt, the reader is therefore referred to the Glossary for better understanding.

2 Why OCORA in general?

Automation and digitalization of rail operations are widely considered to be the appropriate strategy to keep the competitive edge rail transportation currently has over its modal competitors. A pivotal element in rail transportation competitiveness is its 'green' reputation, since it provides a more sustainable mode of transportation than its competition. Other uncontested qualifications are the level of safety and the ability of fast downtown to downtown transportation (passengers) and large volume capability (freight). Consequently, 'Europe' has advocated rail transportation as the predestined backbone of the European transport network and made it the centrepiece of its transportation policy.

To achieve its political objectives, "Europe" invests in the development of a, so called, 'Single European Rail Area' (SERA) to substantiate its policy. These investments pertain the research, development and innovation necessary to allow the railway community keeping its competitive edge (via Shift2Rail and its successor) and subventions that support the technological evolution towards SERA (via e.g. the 'Horizon' program), i.e. in the implementation of ERTMS and the game changers (e.g. ATO, FRMCS). But SERA has not been achieved, yet. Where differences in gauge and power supply ceased to be barriers for interoperability, national technical rules, network specific operational rules and, specifically, the persistence of legacy control, command and signalling (CCS) systems, (often also a mixture of those) are still barriers for an optimised and unified railway system in Europe. The first objectives of 'Europe', therefore, are eliminating country or network specific solutions for either of those three. The objective of OCORA is to provide an architectural framework for the on-board that supports such European solution, taking into account that the migration starts with a legacy to be managed (e.g. existing ERTMS infrastructures and train borne ETCS installations).

2.1 CCS Risk profile

Despite the investments in the implementation of ERTMS, the program has not been sufficiently successful. And the rollout stagnates, seriously jeopardising EU transportation policies but also the resilience and viability of the European signalling industry. The main reasons for this development are:

1. The volatility of the CCS system for the railway community at large because of e.g. frequent updates of the specification and technological developments, but also the variability of user specifications, resulting in an average life cycle expectancy for CCS systems of 5 to 10 years with an average of, currently, about 6 years. The net result of this development is, that rolling stock has to be retrofitted several times during its (residual) lifecycle. For new rolling stock fitted with ERTMS and with a life expectancy of +30 years, this would mean at least 4 consecutive retrofits. The CCS market will, therefore, be dominated by the need for retrofits and not by newly built requirements.
2. Market deficiencies, forcing suppliers to separately allocate scarce resources to develop and manufacture (an ever evolving range of) CCS systems that should be, as a matter of principle, highly standardised, and the evolution of which should be centrally managed to ensure diachronical coherence and consistency of system performance.
3. Consequently, the high life cycle cost of such systems that jeopardise the economic foundations of users. The target initially indicated at start of development of ERTMS in the early nineties of the last century, namely that ERTMS would be more cost effective than legacy systems, has been thoroughly falsified.
4. The prolonged duration of implementation projects and programs which is an outcome of e.g. technical complexities (from an RU point of view specifically safe integration of ETCS in the vehicle), financial considerations or regulatory complications, resulting in a mean retrofit project duration of between 8 and 10 years, often more.
5. The inherent obsolescence problem invoked by a relative short life cycle of ERTMS equipment and a relative long implementation cycle, urging railways to reconsider investments in the wake of potential developments that will restrict the pay-back period of those investments. The most notorious at the moment is the expected implementation of FRMCS, since it is expected that this integration of a new connectivity technology will trigger in most cases a baseline upgrade of ETCS with required re-certification.
6. The ensuing reluctance of railways to invest more in the implementation of ERTMS than absolutely necessary, even if those investments can partly be redeemed from European subventions.

7. The depleting market volumes for CCS suppliers, compromising their ability to deliver quality products and to perform the necessary R&D and innovations to keep their (global) competitiveness.
8. The modal competition catching on rapidly with developments in operationalising e.g. platooning, autonomous road transportation and electrically propelled planes.

These developments are swiftly becoming existential risks for the entire railway community:

1. RU's to lose the modal competition and become a declining niche in the transportation market, their function to be overtaken by automated road transportation.
2. IM's to gradually lose their legitimacy, resulting in declining budgets for maintenance and extension projects.
3. Suppliers to become ever more dependent on single projects (and low market volumes) to cover expenditure on innovation and R&D, making them increasingly vulnerable to global competitors.
4. The EU, in not being able to achieve policy objectives and, in the end, rail budgets being diverted to other, new priorities

2.2 Intended role of the OCORA collaboration

ERTMS today is widely deployed throughout Europe, targeting 15,000 km of tracks to be equipped by 2023 and 51'000 km by 2030. As explained in the previous section, ERTMS still has to achieve its main goals: cross border (or rather: cross deployment) interoperability, controllable cost, and satisfying performance levels. At the same time, ERTMS is an important enabler for the automation and digitalisation of an interoperable railway in Europe. The constraints to be eliminated to allow the European rail sector full benefit from ERTMS, are:

1. Current control-command and signalling on-board solutions in Europe are driving significant investment and maintenance costs as well as complexity and uncertainty for fleet interoperability;
2. Solutions do not consider the differences in life cycles between its constituents or parts;
3. The ERTMS specifications are written in natural language and error-prone with different possible interpretations by different suppliers;
4. Major innovations ("game changers") around the ETCS core are to be deployed in the next decade to boost the railway sector efficiency (i.e. ATO, fail-safe train localization, next radio communication system, etc.).

Recognizing that a coherent, modular, upgradeable, interchangeable, reliable and secure system architecture is paramount to overcome these challenges for the overall control-command and signalling system of the European railway sector, the intent is to establish the **Open CCS On-board Reference Architecture** (referred to as "OCORA"), in coherence with and complementarity to the trackside control-command and signalling subsystem. The OCORA architecture is intended to provide an effective approach to mitigate the risks indicated above, without claiming that it alone can solve all the issues that were listed. On the contrary, OCORA relies on close cooperation with the other stakeholders to jointly address the issue of reviving and speeding up the automation and digitalisation of the European railways.

3 What is OCORA?

OCORA is first and foremost a platform for cooperation to the benefit of the European Railway sector. Guiding principles, rules and regulations agreed between OCORA members, are expressed in the OCORA Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and the OCORA Code of Conduct (CoC).

Members collaborate on the development of an open reference architecture for on-board command-control and signalling systems that supports the mutually agreed OCORA objectives (Chapter 6). Collaboration takes place in working groups. Each working group is responsible for specific tasks, topics or issues. Working group(s) and participating experts are appointed by the OCORA management team.

OCORA is not a legal entity and cannot exert owner rights. In case collaboration projects would lead to financial commitments for the members, these commitments will have to be formally agreed prior to execution.

The founding members of OCORA are:

- Deutsche Bahn AG
- Schweizerische Bundesbahnen SBB
- NS Groep N.V.
- SNCF for itself and in the name of SNCF Mobilités and SNCF Réseau
- ÖBB-Produktion GmbH

OCORA is open to any railway undertaking or train keeper willing to accept the MoU and CoC. Ideally, all members are having delegates that actively support one or several working groups.

4 Key OCORA collaborative principles

OCORA, as a collaboration of its members, acts according to the key principles defined in the MoU and CoC:

1. OCORA is first and foremost a technical collaboration platform for its members. OCORA output will be made available to any stakeholder of the railway community.
2. As expressed in the CoC, OCORA acts in full conformity with existing competition law under any circumstances and within the existing sectoral regulatory framework. Proposals formulated by OCORA, will e.g. be registered for further treatment through existing channels like CER or EUG.
3. Although OCORA aims at standardisation of the on-board CCS function, it does not envisage to set up a formal, "de iure" standard. However, OCORA will develop for its members and third parties, specifications for procurement purposes, following the examples of e.g. EULYNX.
4. Acknowledging that the sector has to be able to manage its legacy, currently available system versions (e.g. ERTMS B3) will as a matter of fact be the starting point for the migration towards the envisaged OCORA platform. The OCORA architecture intends to fulfil current TSI functional requirements to enable compatibility with the existing rolling stock and infrastructure configurations. Nevertheless, when configuring the migration process, OCORA intends to take due account of breakthrough concepts within (e.g. RCA) and out of the direct railway perspective (e.g. the automotive cyclical, concurrent engineering approach, allowing for cumulative, simultaneous product research and development cycles). Modularity on a system level (hardware, HW/SW interface, software applications, etc.) shall allow for a software based functional evolution under compatibility control. This approach will allow for a certain measure of stability for major parts of the system while at the same time allowing for rapid replacement or innovation of key elements thereof.

The collaboration principles defined in the MoU and CoC and summed up in Chapter 3 have been developed further to clearly communicate by what means the OCORA collaboration aims to achieve its business objectives. Our principles for collaboration are:

1. **Openness:** OCORA is an open collaborative technical platform open to all railway companies. This includes IMs and RU's. It is based on sharing and making publicly available its deliverables for the benefit of the railway sector.
2. **Modularity:** OCORA intends to decompose the on-board CCS subsystem into an optimal c.f. reasonable number of standardized building blocks. System modularity is the basis for a modular safety approach and exchangeability, supporting different life cycles.
3. **Simplification:** OCORA intends to manage the exponentially increasing complexity of CCS systems by migrating from the current paper based to a model based system engineering approach, allowing for a more systematic and concurrent requirement specification development process. Furthermore, OCORA plans to isolate in its architecture the functional blocks that will become obsolete in the foreseeable future (e.g. GSM-R, class B systems, current balise technology). This is the basis to easily simplify OCORA based implementations, once the respective functions are not needed anymore.
4. **Independence:** OCORA intends to minimize the dependencies between different building blocks and components, such as dependencies between hardware, software and peripherals. This provides the basis for a modular product-based CCS system approach.
5. **Evolvability:** Recognizing that continuous updates and upgrades are paramount to the railway digitalization, OCORA intends to introduce secure upgradability and interchangeability to speed-up the integration of future innovations in a flexible manner and to provide a solid basis for introducing game changers such as FRMCS or ATO.

Both the corporate objectives themselves as well as the translation of those principles in architecture design principles, which provide the preconditions to achieve those objectives, are discussed in the next chapters.

5 OCORA objectives

It is OCORA priority in general to develop a single generic concept for the CCS on-board to facilitate the:

- Introduction of innovative technologies (starting with the so called 'game changers' like ATO and FRMCS) that satisfy the user needs and requirements of railway companies, while providing a solid and resilient economic foundation for the European signalling industry
- Implementation of full operational interoperability¹ (or: 'seamless transportation') on the European rail network, indicating that any vehicle equipped with ETCS, would be able to run on any ERTMS equipped infrastructure without restrictions.

OCORA members agree to collaborate in achieving the following specific objectives:

1. To define an Open CCS on-board reference architecture by e.g.:
 - Open standardisation of the ETCS/ATP and ATO train interfaces and functions and other on-board building blocks as plug and play solutions (e.g. a reference runtime platform with open interfaces).
 - Establishing the principles and necessary requirements of the OCORA initiative.
 - Aligning initiatives and ideas already started and find synergies to align scarce resources.

Streamlining industrialisation processes in particular the certification.

2. To foster and develop the open ETCS/ATP source initiative by using results and experiences from the "openETCS" initiative and sharing common understanding on this initiative.
3. Validate the viability and relevance of the OCORA approach by using e.g. demonstrators.
4. To promote the use of OCORA for the CCS on-board solutions in Europe in order to make it more cost effective, reliable, safe and secure by e.g.:
 - Ensuring consistency on a railway system scale between OCORA and other similar initiatives. This will be done in close coordination with sectoral organizations (e.g. CER, EIM, EPTTOLA), and in close cooperation with joint undertakings, already in charge of defining certain aspects of the ERTMS (e.g. Shift2Rail, EuG, EULYNX, UNISIG, JPCR, UIC, RCA, etc.)
 - Building consensus and getting support from railway companies by means of regular information towards sectoral associations (e.g. members of the group of representative bodies)
 - Facilitating the industrialisation of OCORA results notably certification, through input to and discussions with associations, sectoral organizations, manufacturing companies and joint undertakings (e.g. UNIFE, UNISIG, Shift2Rail, ERL - European Reference Laboratories, etc.)

Achieving these objectives require a stepwise, incremental approach in which some issues can be (or need to be) addressed on a short term while others are more fundamental and therefore more time consuming. As a result, the OCORA perspective stretches over a longer period. However, future fundamental changes ask for swift and decisive action now: continuing the existing paradigm for realisation of ERTMS will stifle future developments. Therefore, OCORA has already developed and communicated problem statements that point out issues that have to be addressed in the TSI CCS Revision of 2022 as a preparation for more fundamental changes in the near future. OCORA is now preparing detailed proposals for enhancement of the TSI CCS that will be processed through the designated channels.

OCORA primarily has a logical, functional and technical perspective and includes the optimization of the on-board to wayside interface. OCORA closely cooperates with RCA and other stakeholders to ensure that this interface is optimized with the express intention to optimised results with a railway transportation ecosystem focus. Obviously, costs and benefits are not in all cases evenly distributed between IM's and RU's and trade-offs are necessary to achieve the most cost-effective solutions on a sector level. This could require arrangements for financial compensation to ensure the enduring cooperation of stakeholders. Although the OCORA collaboration recognizes the importance of establishing such arrangements, these will not be a topic for OCORA work packages and the issue will, consequently, not be addressed in OCORA documentation but pushed forward in other sector interest groups (e.g. CER) as foreseen in OCORA Alliance document [12]. A close collaboration on a sector scale is on such an issue an essential enabler for fast progress.

¹ Please note that this word that is also used in another sense: in ISO 25010 terminology as an indicator the degree to which a system or computer program is composed of discrete components such that a change to one component has minimal impact on other components.

6 What are expected OCORA deliverables?

Anticipated results from the OCORA collaboration as defined in the OCORA MoU are:

1. A reference architecture guiding the development of (a specification for) a consistent and modular on-board CCS system.
2. An economic evaluation supporting the OCORA architecture and approach.
3. Robust interface specifications allowing for smooth evolution and migration.
4. Improvements of the regulatory framework as a tool for rapid introduction and adoption of (global) technological developments in other branches of industry and technology.
5. So called “demonstrators”, “real life application” of products (based on specifications developed within the OCORA framework) to showcase usability and applicability in test environments. One of those demonstrators will be developed as part of the ‘Minimum Viable Product’ or MVP, the condensed version providing the core functionality of the OCORA platform for both validation and verification as well as authorization purposes.
6. Publications targeting the dissemination of OCORA results to the benefit of stakeholders in the European railway community.

As a first step, OCORA aims at providing a comprehensive and coherent set of specification (architecture and interfaces) for a modular CCS on-board environment that will be published in consecutive OCORA releases. These specifications shall serve as a voluntary format for tender templates, supporting companies currently engaged in procurement activities or soon starting procurement programmes.

Additional, future deliverables include supporting material for IVV (Integration, Verification and Validation) and material helping to justify OCORA-based CCS on-board implementations (e.g. business case calculation templates). This will be done by developing prototypes for testing and demonstration purposes. These ultimately have to be industrialised for serial production.

6.1 Minimum Viable Product MVP

The TSIs contain ambiguities, gaps and errors, resulting in vendor specific interpretations of what should be functionally completely identical CCS applications. Suppliers spend scarce R&D resources on the upkeep of routine products while hampering open competition. To break out of this deadlock, the current deficiencies of the specifications must be eliminated. The intention is to develop, maintain and update a model of the core functions of the CCS system – only those functions absolutely necessary to safely move a train over a rail network – using formal logic. This formal model should be tested in a laboratory environment and empirically in a prototype that performs the basic functions necessary for train operation.

Moreover, CCS equipment are today customized for specific each vehicle classes, sometimes even retrofit project wise. The absence of a harmonized bus system and interfaces, make it impossible to achieve standardisation of CCS components to the extent that these can be installed or removed without specific developments in, or adaptations of the integral CCS on-board (in its turn integrated into) those various classes of vehicles.

The OCORA MVP is looking at disentangling existing dependencies between CCS modules, as well as finding a pragmatic path for the design, demonstration and industrialisation of an OCORA compliant on-board CCS. The OCORA preferential approach would be to execute the MVP development jointly with stakeholders, e.g. within the S2R2 framework. Alternatively, a development venture has to be set up by the OCORA members and other participants to execute the MVP development.

6.2 Roadmap

OCORA aim is to deliver quick value through recommendations that can be used in new build rolling stock, retrofit and CCS design projects.

Through OCORA releases, capitalising on industry partnerships, the set of recommendations will grow and should support the definition of tender templates for modular and serviceable CCS products.

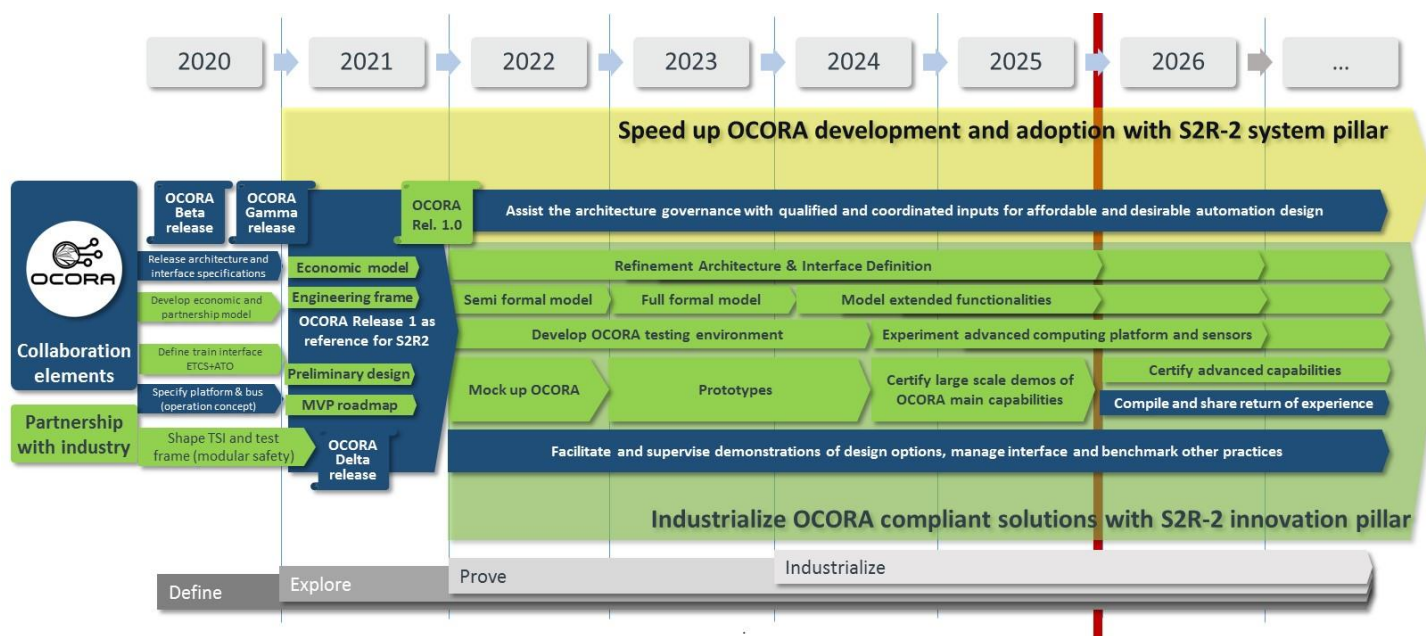


Figure 1 - OCORA Gamma Road-Map

7 OCORA business rationale

To keep up competition with modal competitors, investing heavily in digitalisation and automation, railways rapidly need to embed innovative technologies in their physical assets, planning systems and operations. Digitalisation and automation are the prerequisites for boosting productivity, controlling cost and risk levels, and improving performance. That is why OCORA deems the fast integration of the game changers in the CCS domain of imperative importance and intends to gradually extend the grade of automation of heavy rail to the domain of fully automatic, unmanned operation (since decades business as usual in light rail).

The European railway community has identified ATO over ETCS to be the preferred solution for implementing ATO in heavy rail environments. At the same time, it recognizes the drawbacks of the current ERTMS implementation process which encompass high development and investment costs for suppliers and customers, performance issues and considerable technical, operational and financial risks. EC and ERA already acknowledge that a modular architecture is one of the prime prerequisites to boost the roll out of ERTMS over the European rail network. The rapid expansion of ERTMS equipped infrastructure will improve market dynamics and successful adoption of the game changers but also lead to a substantial increase in market volumes as indicated in the EC report published recently by Mr. Ruete (see below). This, again, is expected to improve the economic foundation of the supply industry.

DG MOVE in its end of May, 2020 version 'CCS framework: governance and arrangements at EU level':

The current typical CCeeS on-board configuration includes multiple proprietary and Class B driven interfaces between the main train on-board building blocks. This induces low on-board upgradeability and dependency on the initial suppliers (CCS and rolling stock) when on-board upgrades are necessary and, consequently, increased cost and complexity.

[...]

This situation significantly increases CCS complexity and reduces the opportunity for more open and competitive markets across Europe. It also creates a system that is not conducive to harmonised evolution and innovation.

Hence it has been agreed in the CCS Framework vision that there should be: one European CCS system: There should be a genuine integrated European CCS system, beyond the current specifications in the CCS TSI, with much greater standardisation and much less variation than at present. This integrated CCS system shall on the one hand deliver unrestricted movement of trains, on the other hand, it shall create a larger market for components.

[...]

As a key enabler of the Single European Railway Area, technical interoperability needs to be ensured in the sense that:

- A vehicle fitted with a compatible ERTMS on-board unit can safely operate anywhere on the European network with acceptable performance.*
- The implementation and consistent application of CCS is made sustainable for users by allowing for cost effective implementation, updating, upgrading and replacement of CCS systems and single parts thereof.*

Considering the intrinsic nature of rail as an integrated complex system, a harmonised functional and technical CCS architecture on a systems level is a prerequisite to master complexity and ensure enduring coherence. Managing the complexity requires a common harmonised functional CCS approach between the different CCS components, with a clear separation of safety-related and non-safety-related layers with non-safety functions.

The role of customer in defining services, requirements and specifications supplier in designing and developing the technologically and operational enablers of the functional system architecture is recognized.

The benefits the OCORA initiative expects to harvest are:

- Reduction of CAPEX: amount of capital expenditure reduced for a CCS on-board solution. This includes also the non-recurring engineering costs for development, integration engineering, certification, and even baseline upgrades.

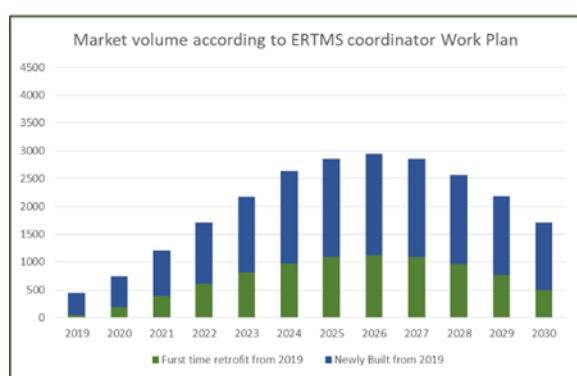
- Reduction of OPEX: amount of operating expenditure reduced for a CCS on-board solution. This includes operation, maintenance, updates, as well as the life-cycle exchanges at least over a full vehicle lifespan.
- Fast and flexible migration: capabilities supporting functional evolution and simplified integration in existing vehicle and infrastructure. This will require decoupling CCS building blocks with different life cycles in order to consistently manage performance aspects (cost, compatibility performance and migration relevant) by isolating and capitalising on solutions for core safety and interoperability aspects.
- Shorter time-to-market: amount of time reduced to introduce new or adapted CCS functionalities and/or technologies into a vehicle. The time to fix an issue is also relevant when it comes to adaptations related to error correction or security patching.
- Increase performance: for the CCS on-board solution, an increase in reliability is expected, the availability and the maintainability, while maintaining the current level of safety.

OCORA provides a quantitative and qualitative economic evaluation in this release where first, critical aspects of OCORA member corporate objectives, business objectives, design goals and architecture design will be analysed and modelled.

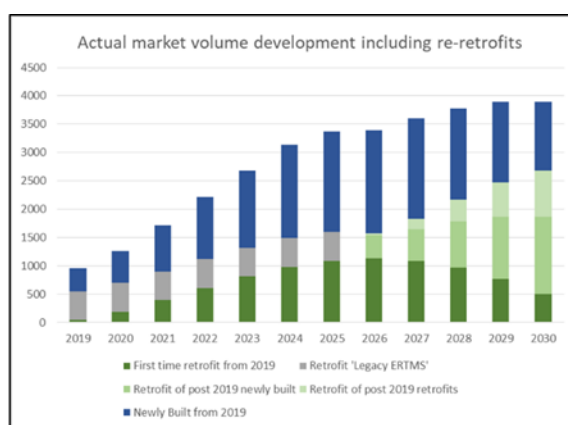
7.1 Market dynamics

An important general notion underpinning the necessity of the OCORA collaboration is the expected growth of market demand in relation to the financial burden for the treasury of the European Communion. Recently, the draft Work Plan 2020 of the European Coordinator for ERTMS was made available. This document provides an estimate of the number of newly built and existing vehicles to be equipped with ERTMS up to 2030 in a “low bound” and a “high bound” scenario. These scenarios appear to be based on the assumption that trains need to be equipped only once during their lifetime and that demand is distributed evenly and balanced over the period under consideration. Experience teaches, however, that the ERTMS On-board has to be replaced once every 5 to 15 years, on average 10 years at the moment (OCORA assessment). Moreover, it is quite conceivable that shockwave changes like the introduction of FRMCS and the decommissioning of GSM-R will result in peak demand in relatively short time windows.

Taking account of the fact that approximately 3600 vehicles have been (retro)fitted already with an estimated average residual life expectancy of 15 years and a (conservative) average replacement rate of 10 years (7 years expected in the futureless to be foreseen, the annual demand for on-board CCS installations would be as depicted in the graph below.



Mr Ruete Draft Workplan 2020 (§ 3.3, p. 27) low bound 2019 – 2030 demand estimate:



Mr Ruete Draft Workplan low bound 2019 – 2030 demand estimate inclusive of pre and post 2019 ERTMS fleet retrofit requirements:

Figure 2 - Market volume trends according to Ruete Workplan

Market volume trends are extrapolated from Work Plan 2020, European Coordinator for ERTMS. As can be seen from this graph, the demand (and expenditure) for fitting and retrofit capacity will increase considerably in the next decade, resulting in a continuous high demand that will stretch the supply industry production capabilities. The demand for retrofit capacity will ultimately become the dominant factor in the CCS market, indicating also a considerable need to develop prototypes.

If the Ruete assumptions are extrapolated to 2040, taking account of an average ERTMS on board replacement (or at least: fundamental upgrade) rate of 6 years and one to one replacement of decommissioned rolling stock, Figure 3 demonstrates that 'retrofit' will be the dominant factor in the implementation of ERTMS and the game changers. From reference, it is crystal clear that controlling the cost, performance and planning risks of retrofits become manageable for all business, industrial and institutional stakeholder involved. This effectively means that achieving a level of risk containment to only sections of the CCS system (or vehicle) that are eligible for an upgrade or replacement, is imperative for the entire rail sector.

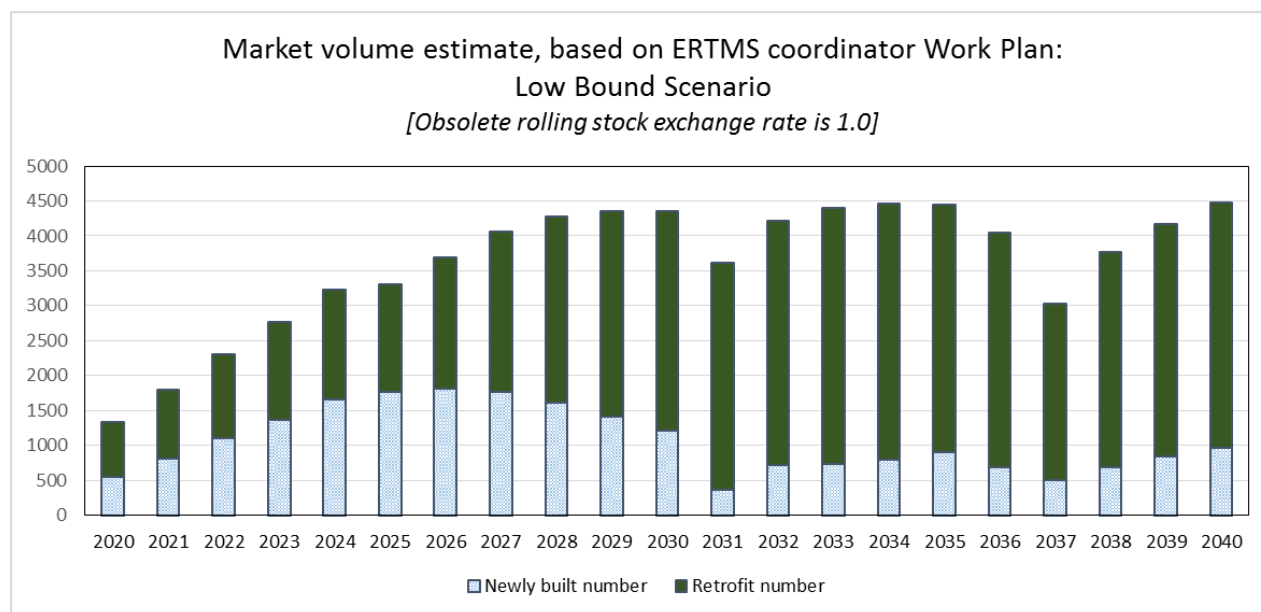


Figure 3 - Extended market volume trends 2020 - 2040

Table 1 - EC CEF Unit contribution overview, is an abstract from the EC publication 'Decision Authorising the Use of Unit Contributions to Support ERTMS Deployment under the Connecting Europe Facility – Transport Sector'¹. It defines the actual reimbursements for the retrofit of rail vehicles and the level to which EC compensates RU's for their investments.

Activities	Cost category	Scenario	Sub-scenario	Amount identified in report (K€)	Unit contribution after application of the differentiated co-financing rate (K€)	Co-financing rate applied (%)		
On-board ERTMS B3 equipped vehicle	Retrofitting	Prototype	International	/	/	2.509	900	36%
			National	/	/	1.352	450	33%
		Serial	International	/	/	255	110	43%
			National	/	/	273	80	29%
	Upgrade	Prototype	International	/	/	1.683	600	36%
			National	/	/	907	350	39%
		Serial	International	Software	/	41	18	44%
			National	Software	/	44	15	34%
			International	Software	Hardware	130	55	42%
			National	Software	Hardware	139	55	40%
			Fitment			100	25	25%

Table 1 - EC CEF Unit contribution overview

Although recent experiences demonstrate that the actual expenditure is significantly higher than anticipated by EC (bills for prototyping are typically approximately € 10 million and the retrofit cost of train sets is in specific cases nearing € 1 million per vehicle), even at the rates indicated in the Table, the structural compensation of RU's will amount to hundreds of millions of Euro's annually in the – from the financial point

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/inea/sites/inea/files/ertms_decision-annex_i_unitcontributions.pdf

of view –most optimistic scenario. And the expenditure for the RU's themselves, paying the majority of the investments needed, will rise beyond what is economically viable. The advent of the game changers which drive CCS On-board system complexity, threatens to increase cost levels even further.

At the same time, developments give a glimpse on the opportunities that offer themselves to the railway community. Market volume is on the rise, even in a conservative scenario. In the do-or-die scenario that is now unfolding, releasing the market potential by ensuring the availability of cost effective solutions for the on-board CCS will trigger a vast and swift transformation from the current, fragmented railways to a fully interoperable European Network. Because it's affordable and offers a value proposition that it currently doesn't have.

It is the prime objective of OCORA to provide the preconditions that allow to effectively accelerate development towards an affordable on-board that drives market expansion while ensuring a positive business case for RU's at the same time. This has to be done in close collaboration with authorities, institutions and especially the supply industry. Expanding market volume, while at the same time harnessing cost and performance levels need to be actively and jointly managed from both the demand and supply sides.

8 OCORA collaboration with other groups

OCORA covers only the train borne part of the overall control-command and signalling infrastructure needed for safe and automatic railway operation (Automatic Train Protection and Automatic Train Operation). A good integration in the overall CCS environment is therefore essential and requests a good collaboration and liaison with related activities, in particular with the following:

- RCA (Reference CCS Architecture): ERMTS Users Group and EULYNX
- Localization: EUG working group "Localization"
- FRMCS: UIC working group "Telecom On-Board Architecture"
- ERA CCS architecture group through CER CCS SG
- Shift2Rail: Connecta, Linx4rail

Prior to this OCORA Gamma release, alignment with some key stakeholders have been discussed. As a result, it can be said that a common view is shared, and the identified Problem Statements are aligned. Collaborative meetings and joint alignment groups are in preparation to reach a pragmatic and efficient cooperation.

OCORA is aiming at close and efficient liaison with other stakeholders in order to help consistency and complementarity between sector initiatives affecting the definition of CCS on-board subsystem. However it is also no secret that the collaboration between the railways and their supply industry on the issue of CCS in general and ERTMS in specific, have not been optimal during the last decades. Especially the relations between RU's and the industry have to be intensified to ensure a successful roll out of ERTMS and the upcoming game changers. EC actively drives mutual cooperation forward jointly with ERA and S2R. It recently formulated its intentions in a number of papers on the future framework for CCS development, intentions that come very close to those of the OCORA collaboration.

DG MOVE in its end of May, 2020 version 'CCS framework: governance and arrangements at EU level':

The business needs of customers and suppliers are not necessarily aligned at the "design phase". Customers do not believe that suppliers have the appetite to move to a different model – away from tied-in national solutions. Indeed, through initiatives such as RCA EULYNX and OCORA, significant resources have already been invested by many IMs and RUs to develop an architectural view on rail system level. Suppliers do not believe that customers have the discipline to move towards a "single uniform architecture", with the danger that the evolution would end up being as fractured and diverse as today.

In order for the European Union to effectively manage and direct funding for rail research and innovation activities within the S2R JU and its successor, coherence at European level to make best use of financial and human resources and obtain the best result is required. This will bring a clear return on taxpayer money, i.e. improved services for passengers and shippers, i.e. maximising the logistic value

The OCORA partners believe that the European railways cannot do without a viable and, therefore, profitable supply industry, just as much as the supply industry cannot do without a viable and therefore financially sustainable rail transportation sector that provides for a healthy and profitable demand for their products. Resources and expertise are scarce in the railway domain, especially with respect to CCS, and a productive cooperation between RU's and Industry is vital to safeguard the future for both parties. One of the prime preconditions to achieve such equilibrium, is that the supply industry provides for a cost effective and innovative range of products and services that meets user requirements. On the other side, railways can accommodate the industry by improving the predictability and stability of demand, especially rationalizing the number of specialties.

OCORA believes that a productive collaboration with its industry partners would accelerate the evolution of the CCS system and provide for the universal and open CCS configuration it is looking for. That would boost the RU confidence in the ability of the industry to deliver according to OCORA requirements and, ultimately, market volume. 'Confidence' being a pivotal theme, OCORA assumes that a frequent, well-structured and open, unbiased exchange of views and ideas with its suppliers is fundamental to initiate customer-oriented product and service development. OCORA believes that as a rule of thumb, it should target reasonable cost to benefit ratio's that support the business requirements of both customer and supplier.

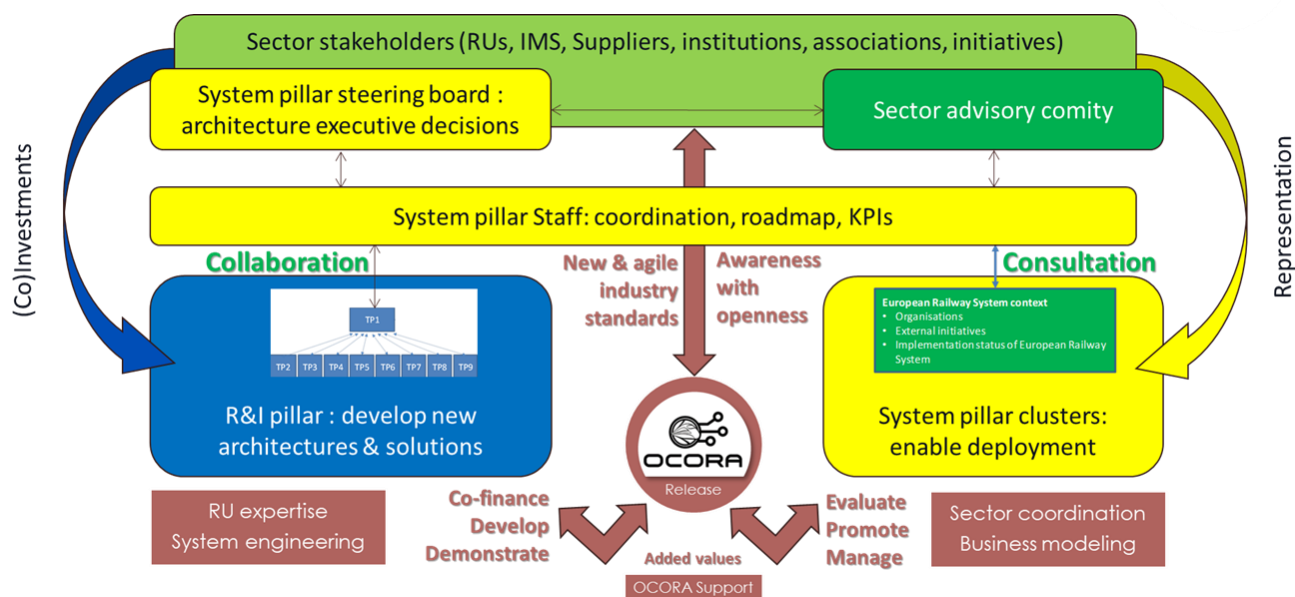


Figure 4 - OCORA role perception viz. Shift2Rail2.

The question of sector cooperation has gathered momentum now the continuation of the Shift2Rail program is broadly discussed. With respect to governance, the successor of Shift2Rail, bearing the working name Europe's Rail JU (ERJU), will consist of two separate entities. As OCORA understands, this will at the one hand be a 'System pillar' whose prime task will be to act as a kind of portfolio management organization and, as such, facilitate the gateway process to identify those innovations that are worthwhile actually for further deployment, regulatory and standard development or actual research and development. At the other hand, a 'Research and Innovation pillar' will be established which will have the task of executing approved R&D projects. A wider governance structure, involving major stakeholders in the railway community, has the task to govern the alignment between the two pillars in a transparent and non-discriminatory manner.

OCORA has the ambition to:

1. Assume the role of specifying on behalf of RU's user requirements where train borne CCS is concerned;
2. Provide expertise to S2R2 (and, currently, the System Pillar predecessor, LinX4Rail) to both columns;
3. Contribute to and support (e.g. through coordination and analysis of outputs) research and development efforts that result in achieving the OCORA platform to the level of industrialization, starting with the OCORA MVP.
4. Participate in advising and managing the S2R2 organization.

OCORA intends to assume these tasks with a firm conviction that intensive collaboration between institutions, railways and supply industry is paramount to succeeding in establishing SERA.

9 Evolution of the OCORA architectural framework

The on-board CCS system is currently “only” ensuring the safe movement of the vehicle over the railway infrastructure. Except for the emergency brake intervention in case of supervised speed threshold overshoot, it is up to train staff, especially the driver, to manage all facets of train operation. This will change with the advent of digitalisation and automation in train operation, supported by innovation in computing and telecommunications. Currently, ATO projects are being developed by several RU's, for the moment targeting GoA 1 and 2 levels. But increasingly also GoA 3 and GoA 4 experiments are started with the express intention to start operations as soon as possible, e.g. for automatic shunting.

9.1 Requirements for an adaptive architecture

OCORA follows an evolutive, stepwise approach that targets testing and approval of the core functions of an OCORA compliant on-board prototype, the so called 'Minimum Viable Product' as a first stage. The main characteristics of the MVP are plug and play interchangeability within the CCS domain through isolation of specific functions in combination with the specification of a generic and open communication backbone, the Universal Vital Control and Command Bus. Furthermore, the integration of the control-command and signalling system in the vehicle is supported by a generic gateway interface specification. Figure 5 depicts a simplified high-level view of the envisioned stage one OCORA CCS on-board system architecture as presented in earlier releases. Please note that the number of functions or devices is not limitative and includes e.g. train positioning, train integrity management, etc. These are not specifically made visible, since it is a matter of the detailed architectural design to allocate such functions to either the CCS on-board or train domain.

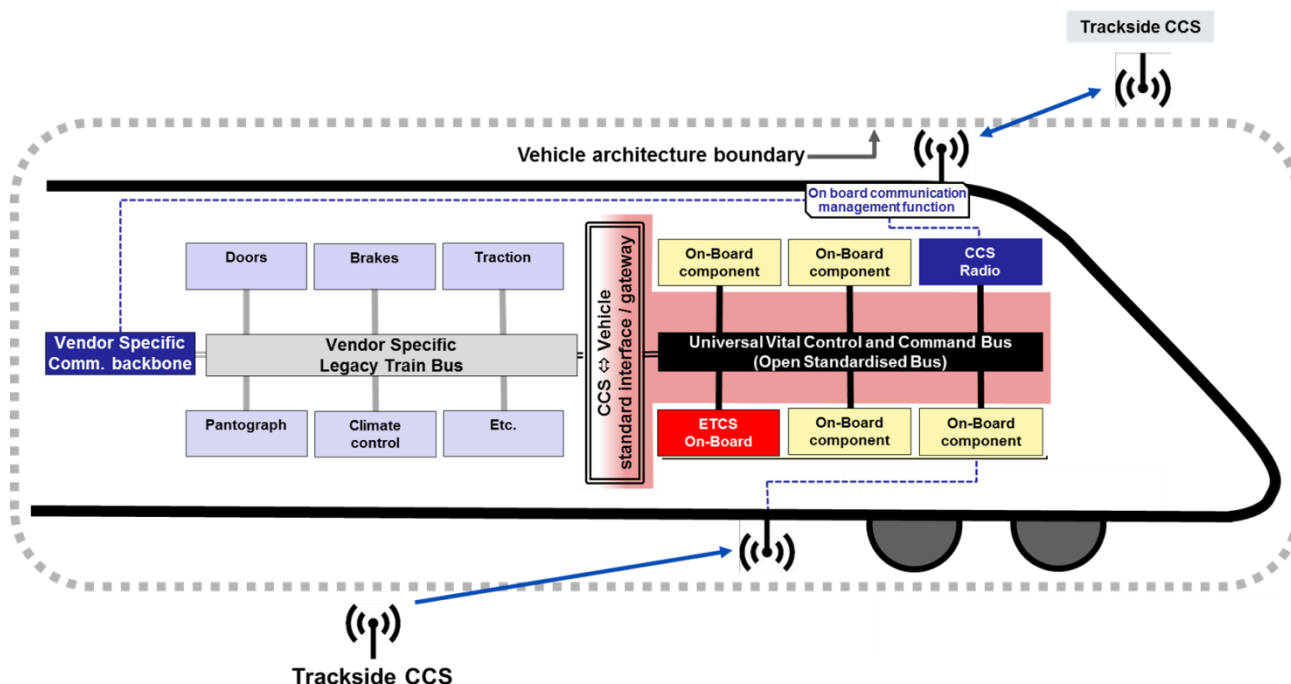


Figure 5 - High-level simplified vision of OCORA stage one vehicle architecture

Obviously, this architecture retains several drawbacks of current vehicle design and stops short of the complete modularisation of the vehicle inclusive of the CCS system that will be required for commercial operation under GoA 3 and GoA 4. Therefore OCORA foresees that further development on the overall vehicle architecture will be necessary in order to ensure technology convergence and standardisation for buses on the vehicle side. Indeed, OCORA probing the options with industry partners in the frame of S2R-LinX4Rail discussions on CONNECTA.

With the advent of automated train operation in heavy rail, notably through GoA 3 and 4, the option of unmanned rail traffic – for decades of “business as usual” in light rail – becomes feasible. The introduction of ATO and FRMCS in TSI 2022, supported by improvements of e.g. braking curve calculation, are a first step

in that direction. The imperative of cost reduction and productivity improvement allowing rail transportation to keep up with modal competition, will inevitably drive the development of further automation and digitalization.

The on-board CCS domain is now defined by the need of safe movement of the individual (combination of) rail vehicle(s) over the railway infrastructure. It essentially requires an ATP system (ETCS core) and supporting functions to feed the ETCS core with the necessary data. Except for the emergency brake intervention in case of supervised speed threshold overshoot, it is up to train staff, especially the driver, to manage all facets of train operation.

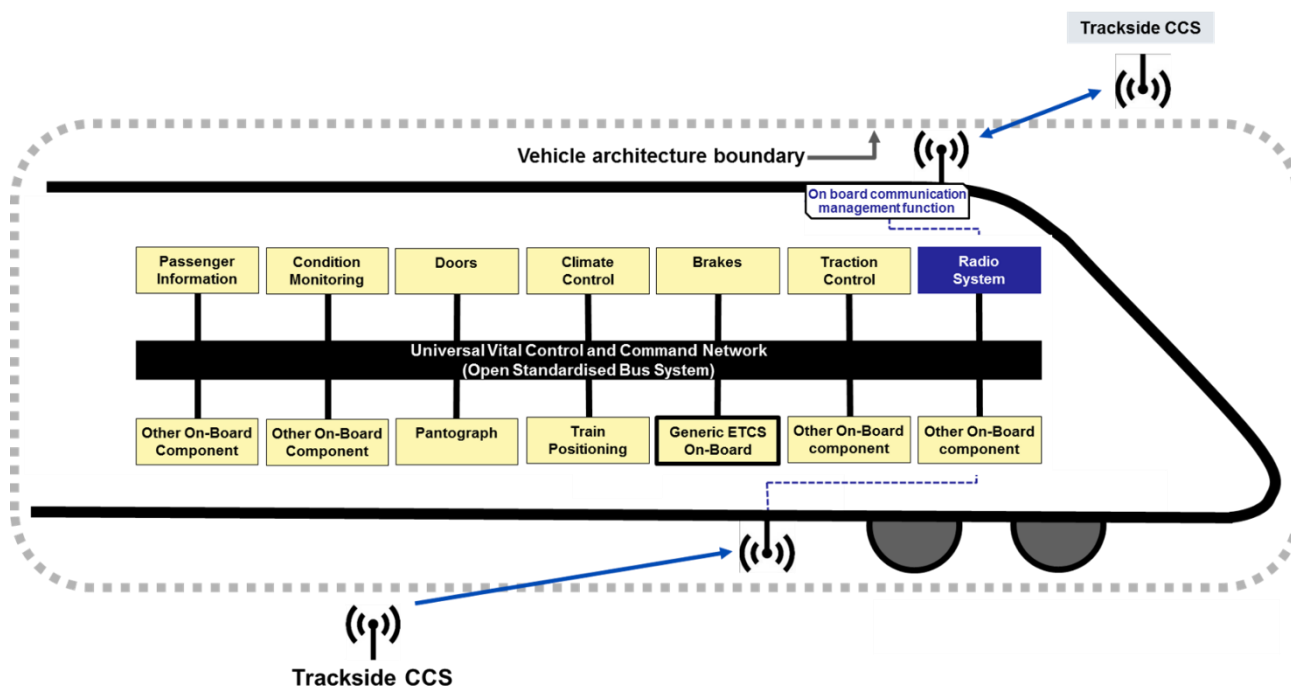


Figure 6 - High-level simplified vision of OCORA long term vision on vehicle architecture

The reduction of the human element in train operation requires that an increasing number of vehicle systems be effectively controlled by technical system. Traction, doors, climate, etc., have to be automatically controlled when human control is absent. On the long term, OCORA envisages unmanned train operation on, at least selected, sections of heavy rail networks or for specific transportation functions like shunting, especially high traffic density lines. Obviously, this requires a progressive adaptation of the railway system architecture, infrastructure and rolling stock, along the definition of the CCS architecture as depicted in Figure 6: a train network shall allow to connect adaptable train borne components and manage their functional distribution in an agile, plug and play, way.

9.2 OCORA architecture development stages

To accommodate the gradual evolution of OCORA, a number of development steps are identified that allow the OCORA members to consecutively address actual topics.

9.2.1 Preparing imminent retrofit projects

In this step, the interface between the proprietary CCS system and the fully integrated proprietary vehicle environment is isolated, enabling exchange of the CCS environment without affecting the vehicle and vice versa, hence simplifying obsolescence issues

OCORA members are already engaged in retrofit projects that are, or will be, well under way. It is not realistic to expect all OCORA requirements to be fulfilled in these implementations. In this phase, the first objective is to establish exchangeability and modularity on a CCS system level, enabling replacement at end of life cycle without any residual artefacts having an impact on the selection of suppliers for successors or the implementation of the OCORA CCS platform. The first objective is, therefore, to specify an unambiguous and open interface between the CCS system and the vehicle, including ATO functionality. OCORA aims at eliminating ambiguities from the existing subsets 119 and 139 and closing the gaps in these specifications.

OCORA is developing a correct, complete and comprehensive ETCS to TCMS interface specification, based on the UNISIG SS119 version 1.0.15 [7] and a gap analysis of the OCORA ETCS - TCMS interface specification and UNISIG Subset 119, version 1.0.15 [8]. OCORA engages with ERA to further investigate the findings. OCORA strongly advocates the necessity of aligning both specifications and agreeing upon a mature, coherent and complete SS119 before considering inclusion in the TSI revision of 2022. The aim is to have a generic and open interface between vehicle and ETCS system as depicted in Figure 7 for future and existing fleet.

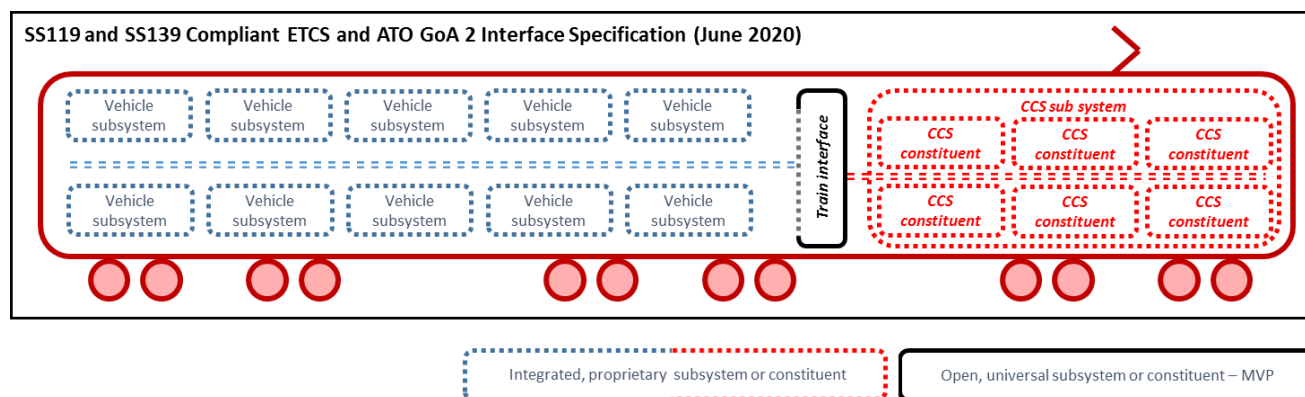


Figure 7 - Decoupling of the interfaces between the CCS on-board and the vehicle

OCORA intends the output from its subset 119 and 139 development work to be integrated in the TSI Revision of 2022 to complete and enhance the existing specification.

9.2.2 Modularisation of the CCS on-board

In this step, the CCS on-board will be decomposed into individual building blocks, connected by open interfaces and an open bus system allowing exchangeability between the building blocks without affecting either the vehicle or other CCS constituents. Obsolescence management and migration issues can be simplified; approval and certification can be confined within the boundaries of the building blocks instead of the CCS on-board or the whole vehicle. This step implies development of the specifications for the Universal Vital Control and Command Bus and the interfaces between the single building blocks. Based on this development, software will be generated, a test environment established which will eventually result in a prototype that can be empirically tested in an operational environment. The objectives include the approval of the prototype as a first step in industrialisation.

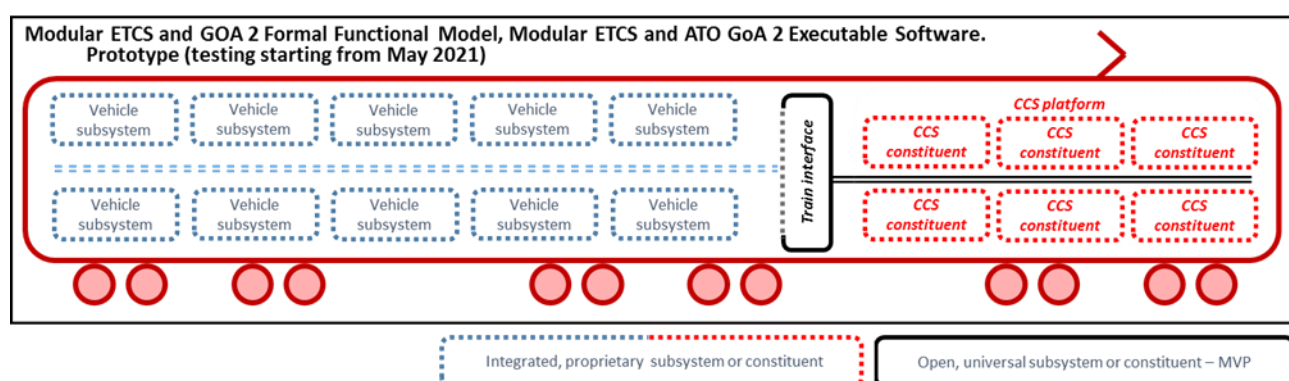


Figure 8 - Modularization of the CCS on-board proper - UVCCB introduction

OCORA intends, with the output from this modularisation exercise to challenge the TSI CCS Revision of 2022 in order to prepare the path for the long-term CCS evolutions. The definition of building blocks should help to shape an adequate level of granularity for TSI options, which will facilitate both standardisation of product supply and smoothen the migration from existing and future CCS building blocks.

9.2.3 OCORA CCS platform

In this step, the core CCS functions will be organised on a generic platform that enables adding, removing or changing functional applications without affecting the computing platform or runtime environment on which they are installed or the state of approval of non-affected parts of the system. This will facilitate fast and easy

software updates and upgrades of only those applications for which that is necessary, e.g. when requirements demand frequent updates of security software. Authorisation issues can be further simplified and contained.

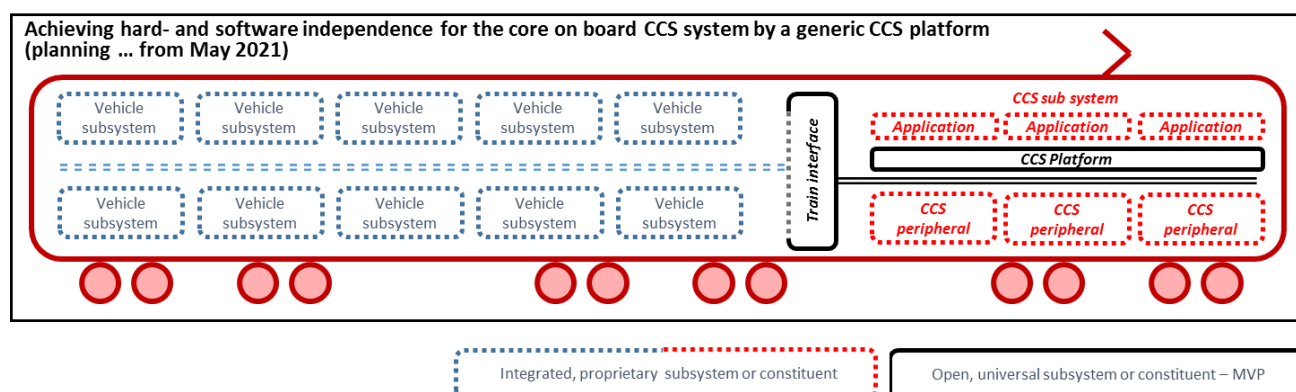


Figure 9 - Open CCS system with full plug and play capabilities for functional applications, hardware and peripherals

On the longer run, but already under scrutiny of OCORA and Shift2Rail Connecta, is the convergence of vehicle networks, consisting of one or multiple bus systems that integrate the CCS and vehicle bus systems.

Developments like GoA3 and GoA4 will demand for remotely access and automated control of an increasing number of CCS and vehicle functions. Evolution of the CCS domain and the vehicle will become inevitable at some point in the future. Such development will have a considerable impact on vehicle design, performance and cost structure and will give a strong impetus to improved management of cost, risk and performance for both users as well as suppliers. The train interfaces allowing to connect legacy bus may disappear but standardised secured communication interface, being a physical or virtual building block, must be anticipated in order to decouple issues. This would ease safety approval, non-regression, cyber security and maintenance management, while allowing for innovation and fair competition. Obviously, existing technical standards should be improved or developed, the certification c.f. approval process should be revised and new business models should be developed for both fleet owners, users and the supply industry.

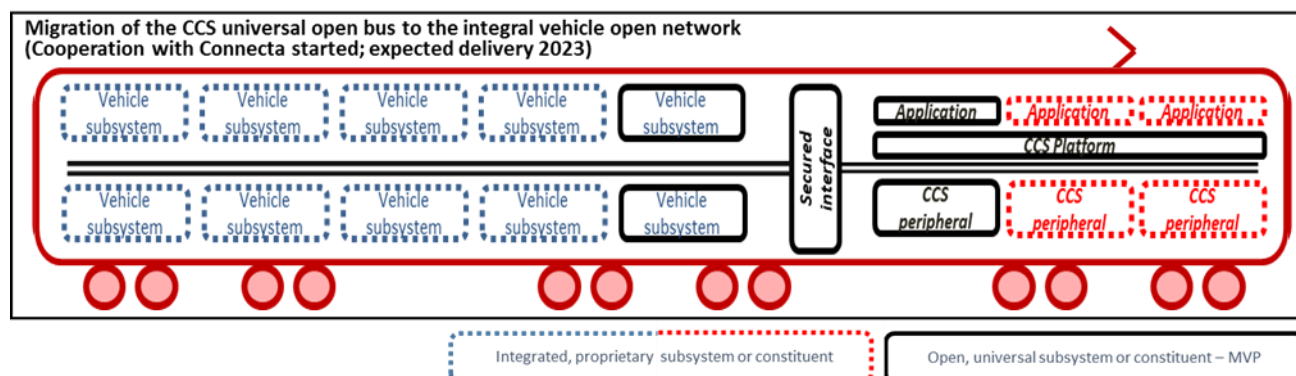


Figure 10 - Future view: CCS building block integration supported by vehicle standardisation

10 OCORA architecture design principles

OCORA defines the principles along which it intends to develop its platform in terms of:

1. System architecture design principles, determining coherence and consistency of the functional and technical building blocks that together define role and value of the CCS on-board system in its institutional/sectoral, commercial, functional and physical environment (rail vehicle, railway operations), providing an answer to the question: **why** (decomposition) design choices are made?
2. System engineering, the principles governing the logical and physical structure of data communication between the (sub)systems of the CCS on-board system and between the CCS on-board system and external systems that define how these building blocks and their environment interact, i.e. the transformation of OCORA design principles into the **behaviour** of the OCORA platform. OCORA uses the OSI Model for this purpose.

OCORA also uses architecture design quality criteria that are further explained in [13], i.e. product quality characteristics and sub-characteristics for the OCORA platform as defined by ISO 25010. These explain **how** design choices are to be implemented in the OCORA platform. Please note that ISO 25010 in some cases makes use of the same terms as usually applied in railway design, notably 'modularity' and 'interoperability', but with a different meaning.

10.1 OCORA architecture design principles

10.1.1 Context and coherence

Architecture design principles explain how and why system design enables RUs to achieve business objectives and, therefore, always have an economic rationale. They are not necessary to explain how or why a system works or performs, but how a system supports the corporate goals of its users¹.

CCS systems, especially ERTMS, have become important drivers for the life cycle costs of rolling stock, operational performance and transportations capabilities. Defining architecture design principles is of paramount importance to manage financial, operational and performance risks by design. This requires moving away from monolithic CCS architectures that result in any (minor) change almost automatically affecting the integrated whole. The subsequent need to replace entire systems, repeated authorization processes and persistent complexity and performance issues, in the end damages the economic viability of both users and suppliers while it prevents early adoption of innovations and slows down the automation of railway processes.

OCORA architecture aims at breaking down the CCS on-board in building blocks that provide an optimum between economic value and technical feasibility. The following parameters influence the level of decomposition:

- Life cycle expenditure and revenues of the selected level of decomposition (meaning not only costs and returns, because these not only pertain to financial drivers but also e.g. competitiveness, compliance with stakeholder or shareholder requirements and reputation);
- Building block life expectancy;
- Building block performance requirements;
- Physical location of building blocks in the vehicle;
- Building block hardware requirements;
- Procurement requirements, e.g. with respect to the desired level of complexity, planning issues or operational requirements.

In economic terms: the upper limit of granularity, is the first level of decomposition where it is more cost effective to exchange single building blocks than to replace the monolithic system they are part of. For example: if the total cost of ownership of a monolithic system exceeds that of the coherent and integrated whole of the sum of its independent building blocks, then the user should opt for decomposition of the system. And vice versa. This rule also applies to the question whether to further decompose single building blocks, defining the lower limits of decomposition. When it is more cost effective to replace a subsystem or

¹ See e.g.: Maier, Mark W. and Rechtin, Eberhardt. *The Art of Systems Architecting*, CRC Press, Inc. USA.

component than to repair it, the lowest level of granularity is reached. When it is more cost effective to repair it, it is worthwhile to decompose it since that will allow the level of modularity needed for maintenance.

OCORA has defined a number of core collaboration design principles pertaining to the breakdown and clustering of functional building blocks that are to be perceived as mutually related and dependant and can be both cause and effect of the others:

1. **Openness:** the property that design, contents, operation of a system and any information hereon is fully transparent and accessible to users and stakeholders.
2. **Modularity:** The property of being composed of a coherent whole of individual, independent building blocks. This 'whole' could also itself be monolithic system, so to make effective use of this property, OCORA also requires an approach to product (e.g. functional vehicle adapter module) and services (e.g. testing, insurance) allowing to integrate the CCS on-board with the rest of the vehicle building block.
3. **Exchangeability:** The property that individual building blocks can be replaced by others without affecting the integrity of the whole system or of other building blocks. This property implies that provisions have been made regarding the connection between discrete building blocks which should enable the system to retain its integrity in case building blocks are replaced.
4. **Migrateability:** The property allowing to add or remove independent building blocks to the system or exchange existing building blocks by alternative ones, without compromising the integrity of the structural environment they are part of, and...
5. **Evolvability:** The property of enabling new technologies to be integrated into existing building blocks (or the mortar between them) while retaining at least the necessary functions of the integral system.
6. **Portability (Platform Independence):** the property to exchange software between systems. A good example is regular office software that can be installed and used on laptops from multiple manufacturers and using different operating systems (e.g. Windows and iOS), e.g. software.
7. **Security:** the property that a system cannot be used or its correct functioning compromised by an unauthorized source.

These and supporting system architecture principles are further described and defined in the next paragraphs. Please take account of the fact that the system engineering principles, which sometimes at least in terminology overlap with system architecture principles, are dealt with in the architecture document [13].

10.1.2 Openness

As the most important principle for collaboration within OCORA, the concept of 'openness' certainly also pertains to the architectural level. Here, OCORA has adopted the interpretation of 'open' as proposed by the OSI DARTS open spectrum¹. DARTS stands for data and information being discoverable, accessible, reusable, transparent and sustainable. These words indicate in short that information can be found, used, shared, easily understood, analysed, validated and verified and applied without the user being hampered by financial, legal, technical or ethical barriers or constraints.

10.1.3 Modularity

Modularity is expressed by the degree to which a system or computer program is composed of discrete building blocks. OCORA assumes that as a matter of design principles, its architecture must anticipate the need that a change to one building block has minimal or no impact on others. As per definition, modularity is one of the main drivers for maintainability, performance and capabilities and, therefore, expenditure and risk. OCORA aims at managing RU's financial, operational and performance risks through improved exchangeability. In the OCORA context, modularity is defined as follows:

Modularity is a prerequisite for having "plug and play"-like exchangeability of an on-board CCS system or its subsystems without the need to involve either the original supplier of the vehicle, of the CCS system or one of its subsystems.

While the main target of modularity for OCORA based systems is to achieve "plug & play"-like exchangeability as defined above, modularity brings along other advantages:

¹ <http://osiglobal.org/2018/11/15/osi-brief-what-do-we-mean-by-open/>

1. Life cycle orientation on building block level. Where now monolithic systems often need to be replaced while only specific components or subsystems have become (technologically or economically) obsolete, life cycle management can decentralise from systems' level to the single building blocks of the system. Life cycle costs of the CCS on-board system can be improved, since subsystems at the end of their life cycle can be replaced individually.
2. Decomposing a system into subsystems reduces the development time for the overall system, since it improves the possibility for parallel development and specialization of the different development teams.
3. Decomposing a system reduces complexity during development and maintenance of the overall system. For example, single subsystems and components can be easily isolated, exchanged, or replaced for trouble shooting purposes. Testing and acceptance efforts can be concentrated on the respective subsystem. As a result, life-cycle costs and implementation time can be reduced.
4. If the interfaces of the subsystems are well-designed, introducing new functionality to the CCS on-board system is greatly simplified and the system can evolve rather than be replaced as a whole.
5. If safe functionality is encapsulated and separated from non-safe functionality, the likelihood of having the need to modify, test and accept safe subsystems decreases. At the same time, it increases the capability to easily introduce changes to non-safe subsystems.

Modularity not only comes with the advantages pointed out, but also has its downsides, e.g. a potential increase in integration testing effort when building the system for the first time in a situation where a reference implementation or at least an unambiguous specification is missing. Modularity with the purpose of having "plug and play"-like exchangeability as defined in the OCORA context (see red box), requires very detailed interface descriptions as well as harmonized requirement specifications (functional and non-functional) for all subsystems. Defining these interfaces and requirements to the level needed for the OCORA desired "plug and play"-like exchangeability, requires a substantial deployment of scarce human resources. Therefore, the granularity of the decomposition needs to be a result of a well-balanced analysis of the effort against the business needs (expected benefits). A relevant size for standardised building blocks is also essential to avoid that the workload to update interface specification will at the end become a new bottleneck for evolutions.

10.1.4 Exchangeability (Interchangeability)

In the OCORA context, exchangeability is often also referred to as interchangeability. The OCORA definition for exchangeability is as follows:

Exchangeability (Interchangeability) is the ability to replace one or multiple OCORA defined building blocks with (a) respective building block(s) of (an)other supplier(s), without affecting other building blocks of the train or the overall CCS on-board system.

Exchangeability (interchangeability) is an important driver for maintenance as it should allow OCORA defined building blocks to be fitted in various type of rolling stock (e.g. generic spare parts that are configured automatically when plugged in a specific train).

10.1.5 Migrateability (Upgradeability)

In the OCORA context, the terms migrateability or upgradeability are often used as alternatives. The OCORA definition for migrateability is as follows:

Migrateability (Upgradability) is the ability to introduce changes to one or multiple OCORA defined building blocks, without affecting other building blocks or the overall CCS on-board system.

10.1.6 Evolvability (Flexibility)

In the OCORA context, the words evolvability, evolutivity, and flexibility are often used as alternatives. The OCORA definition for Evolvability is as follows:

Evolvability (Flexibility) is the ability to easily adopt to new technologies or to extend the functionality of an on-board CCS system without the involvement of the original supplier.

10.1.7 Portability (Platform Independence)

Portability is the degree of effectiveness and efficiency with which a system, product or component can be transferred from one hardware, software or other operational or usage environment to another. Portability is a main characteristic and includes the sub-characteristics: adaptability, installability, and replaceability (ISO 25010). Portability in the context of OCORA focuses on platform independence of functional applications: the fact of using a “generalized abstraction” (API) between the functional application logic and the underlying (Computing) Platform. The OCORA definition for portability is as follows:

Portability (Platform Independence) is achieved when a functional application, based on the generalized abstraction, runs un-changed on different (computing) platform implementations. For this, the functional application shall only use external functions through a defined application programming interface (API).

10.1.8 Security (Cyber Security)

Security is the degree to which a product or system protects information and data so that persons or other products or systems have the degree of data access appropriate to their types and levels of authorization. Security is a main characteristic and includes the sub-characteristics: confidentiality, integrity, non-repudiation, accountability, and authenticity (ISO 25010). In the OCORA context, the focus is on cyber security. Therefore, this term is often used to express this product characteristics. The OCORA definition for security is as follows:

Security (Cyber Security) is the protection of (especially safety related communication and data used in) CCS on-board systems against threats (in particular cyber-attacks and hacks). To achieve this, all main security functionality like identify, protect, detect, respond and recover are considered.

10.2 Data communication design principles (OSI)

OCORA follows the OSI reference model for data communication design. The model provides the ‘mortar’ that enables modular exchangeability as referred to in paragraph 2.1.1. The OSI, or Open System Interconnection, model defines a networking framework for implementing protocols in seven layers. Control is passed from one layer to the next, starting at the application layer in one station, and proceeding to the bottom layer, over the channel to the next station and back up the hierarchy¹

Since OCORA applies the OSI reference model, the design principles applied are given here for reference purposes:

1. A layer should be created where a different level of abstraction is needed.
2. Each layer should perform a well-defined function.
3. The function of each layer should be chosen with an eye toward defining internationally standardized protocols.
4. The layer boundaries should be chosen to minimize the information flow across the interfaces.
5. The number of layers should be large enough that distinct functions need not be thrown together in the same layer out of necessity, and small enough that the architecture does not become unwieldy.

¹ Source: <https://www.ukessays.com/essays/information-technology/explain-the-principle-of-network-osi-layers-information-technology-essay.php>