

French Companion

Cooperation for More Safety on the Roads and Railways



Transport crosses borders. DLR mainly cooperates with European partners in the area of transport research. Strong contacts link it with France.

The French National Institute for Transport and Safety Research (INRETS) is a state-funded scientific and technological institute for transport research under the joint responsibility of the French ministries of research and transport. INRETS was founded in 1985 and currently employs 600 staff. They are shared among the 17 research institutes in Lille, Lyon, Marseille, and in the greater Paris area.

The French research institute is active in the areas of traffic safety, transport networks, environmentally friendly transport, freight traffic, and new technologies. INRETS coordinates and analyzes research and development processes for improving traffic and transport systems. National customers are the French government, state authorities, and private companies, such as Alstom, Renault, and the French Railway (SNFC).

In France, INRETS manages the French transport research program within the networks for research and tech-

nological innovations. At the European level, INRETS scientists are in charge of a series of projects of the European research framework program. Internationally, INRETS cooperates in particular with the USA, Canada, Australia, Japan, and Korea.

DLR and INRETS are working together on topics such as driver assistance, safety in road and rail transport, transport management, and environmentally friendly traffic. Both institutions are united by their commitment at the European level in the European Conference of Transport Research Institutes (ECTRI). Regular coordination of strategies and research programs, more intensive personnel exchange, and mutual use of research facilities are planned for the near future.

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