EUROPEAN RAILWAY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (ERTMS) - CURRENT STATUS AND PROSPECTS OF DEVELOPMENT

Summary

Differences between national rail traffic management systems in the European Union countries are making the rail sector less competitive. The most of currently used train control and command systems are outdated and cannot be used in high speed trains. The European Railway Traffic Management System is a modern solution using a digital data transmission technology. The strategic goal of ERTMS implementation is to ensure the interoperability of the European railway network and to improve the quality of passenger and freight rail transport. In this paper the author presents ERTMS operating rules, system functions and advantages. Moreover, this paper presents the existing status of ERTMS implementation and deployment plans in European Union. The paper describes also the Polish strategy of installing ERTMS.