

POLITICO Pro Morning Transport

GOOD MORNING and welcome to Wednesday's Morning Transport. Today, we report on the European Parliament's vote on car-approving rules, Airbus finds a way to squeeze more seats on its flagship A380, Germany sets up an entity to coordinate funding to digitalize the maritime sector, the public-private partnership Shift2Rail is oversubscribed and Finnish logistics company Containerships goes green. Also, Gothenburg port asks for government mediation in the conflict with dockworkers, legacy carmakers outdo newcomers in developing self-driving cars, and environmental groups ask to halt shipping in the Arctic.

RAIL — SHIFT2RAIL CLAIMS SUCCESS IN FUNDING CALL: The latest call for funding for the European Commission's joint venture with the rail industry to foster research came in over-subscribed, [Shift2Rail](#) (S2R) said on Tuesday. A total of 60 proposals came in asking for €136.5 million in financing. But just €60.8 million is available this time around. DG Move's Director General Henrik Hololei said the projects would give a boost to "ambitious objectives to foster competitive research" in the railway sector. S2R plans to complete the evaluations by the middle of June.

— **S2R only got going in 2015**, but [X2Rail-1](#) is already cited as a successful example of a project. It aims to reduce costs and energy consumption while boosting capacity on existing lines. S2R is chipping around €20 million of the €45 million total cost.

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