

Freight couplers: finally automated

After 150 years, the time-consuming manual coupling of freight trains is coming to an end. Along with its inherent risks and downsides. The CargoFlex Type Scharfenberg by Voith changes the status quo. Since 2017, this automatic freight coupler has been undergoing its first long-term test run with SBB Cargo. Jessica Amberg, Project Manager 5L-Zug at the Swiss freight specialist, highlights the benefits: "Voith has implemented tried-and-tested design principles in their freight couplers, consciously avoiding maintenance-heavy screw connections on the load path," she says. "Our completed trials so far promise a reliable operation for our freight rail transport during the four-year pilot phase."

Safe, fast, efficient and digitalized

Seven new SBB freight wagons have been fitted with the half-automatic Voith CargoFlex Type Scharfenberg. This technology ensures greater safety, reliability, and a higher degree of automation in logistics and combined transport. The lightweight but robust modular system allows a flexible fitting of future upgrade components, for example for signal transmission or automatic uncoupling.

