





puremobility2puremountains International Conference | National Park Gesäuse, Austria

International Conference | National Park Gesäuse, Austria 1st to 3rd of April 2014









Block 3

GOOD PRACTICE (PROJECTS)







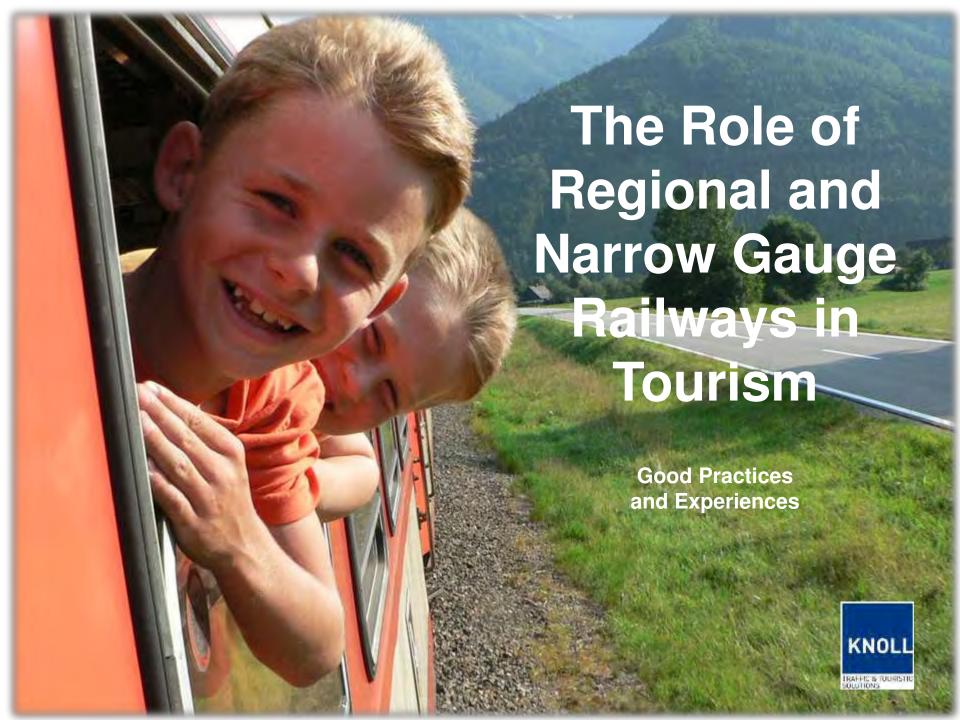


Otfried KNOLL

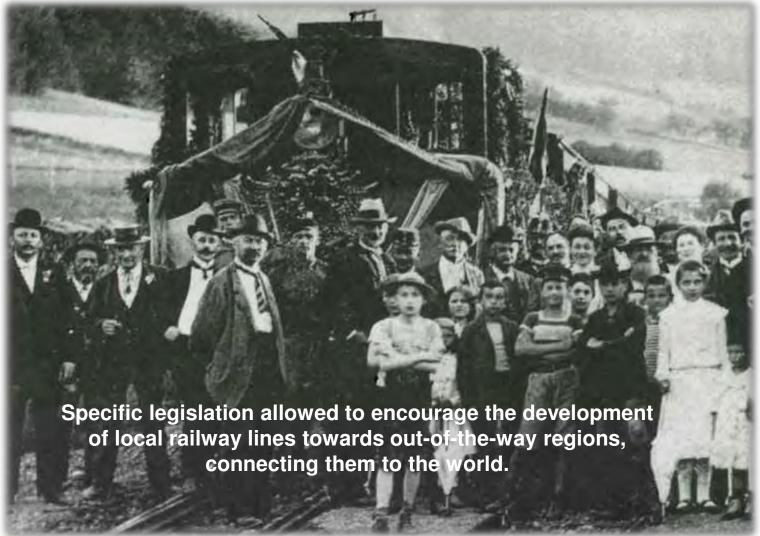
KNOLL Traffic & Touristic Solutions

The role of regional and narrow gauge railways in tourism

Jointly for our common future



High expectations







In those days: Spirit of optimism



















Tourism today

- Increasing awareness of quality by guests requires new distinguishing marks.
- Perception as a destination requires profile.
- Profile means orientation.
- Orientation means alignment with the wishes of the guests.
- Destinations, giving the impression that one could also make adventure holidays without gas pedal are in demand.
- Summer resorts that offer their guests a conscious "locate", are in the ascendant.
- Regions, which are particularly suitable for this purpose, currently have a good chance to establish an unique selling point.
- In this context, the future of regional railways can be seen.





Leisure Mobility

- Motive for leisure traffic: Replacement of daily loads (also rush hour) through positive experiences.
- Leisure offerings intended to bring economic success for the regions.
- Indeed, the burden of tourist destinations with emissions of leisure traffic increases.
- Trend has been observed that leisure traffic volume has surpassed the rush-hour traffic volume.
- In the Access2Mountain project regions leisure mobility plays a major part
- Mobility = market share?





Perspectives

- Mobility is the determining factor in individual lifestyles. Mobility continues to increase.
- This will remain so.
- Accessibility and location advantages will be even more in the future a considerable factor for winning or losing market share.
- Using the own car gives up only who also has suitable, attractive alternatives.
- In the foreground of the local public transport services, therefore, must always be the quality of available service.
- Increasing awareness of quality in services enforces positive connotations distinctive points (USPs).
- Exactly those distinguishing features can be positioned as a regional identity if they are credible.





















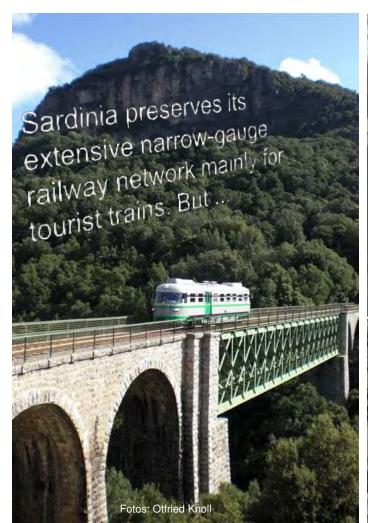


Mobility without cars and trucks





Sardinia





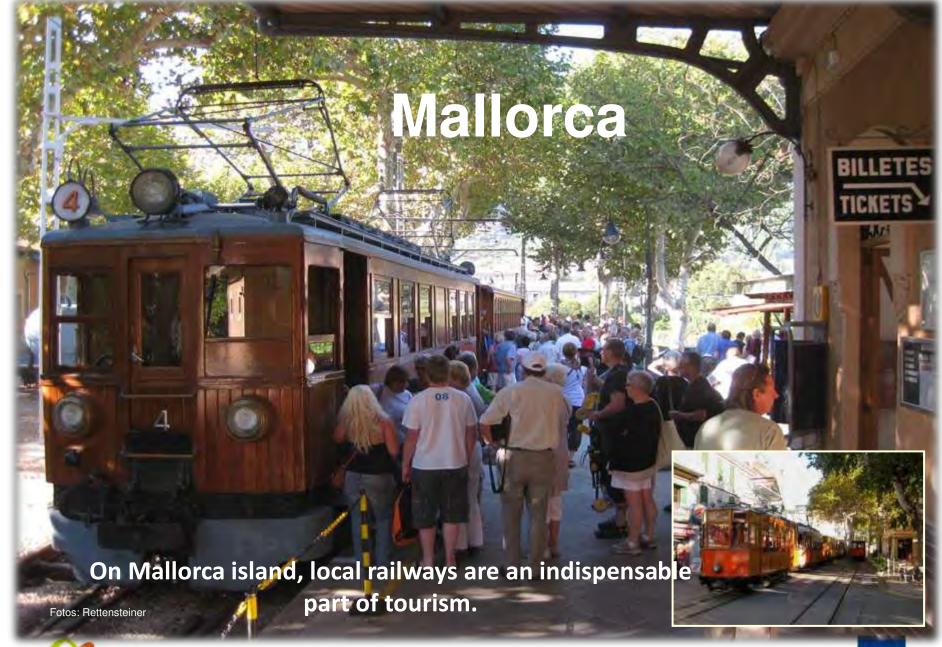




Sardinia





























In Austria: Pinzgaubahn







No recipe, but many ingredients

- It is crucial for the success of regional railways, whether they are accepted in the region.
- It is also crucial, as they manage to reach multipliers.
- For this purpose, railways need to be as in tune with the time, perceived as a "lifestyle-friendly" means of transport.
- And they must be able to tell stories.
- To tell stories for people.
- From people to people.
- It is always the sum of the likeable charms, all together are important.





Reblausexpress







An Austrian Speciality





Always given: freedom of choice









Strategic objectives

- Objective in tourism: decouple local mobility from car use.
- Objective in everyday public transport: decouple mobility from car ownership.
- Mandatory and optional riders should become "I-want-to bepassengers".
- This involves factors that focus on the emotional level: Safety, cleanliness, friendliness and favorability for all.
- Quality in public transport is not just frequency and punctuality.
- Especially the "livability" of the transport systems and the vehicles is increasingly demanded.
- Dirty and unkempt waiting points are certainly not "state of the art" to win passengers.
- The usability of public transport can also be improved by more favorable tariffs. This shows the example of South Tyrol.

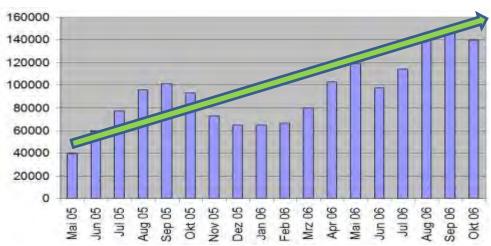




Reactivation of the Vinschgerbahn (Italy)

- The Vinschgerbahn railway was taken into ownership by the country, using a politically favorable time window
- Ultimately, the country of South Tyrol (Province Alto Adige) has been the driving force, developing a new concept of operations and renewed the route fundamentally
- The success was far beyond the expectations!









Reactivation: A great success









Empirical findings Vinschgerbahn

After the effort to implement a forward-looking strategy, even the everyday things must be solved.

If the crosslinking with everyday life should succeed, the municipalities have an important role.

In the Vinschgau region, there were assigned tasks for municipalities in order that the everyday traffic became more attractive.

For example:

- A competent mobility counseling at municipal offices, possibly even ticket sales and job ticket advice
- The take over of conservation, design and maintenance of stations
- Create a design for the municipality home page with reference to the railway
- Providing of useful information at public transport stops
- A good integration of the railway stations in cycling and walking networks
- Parking management and access restrictions for cars
- Supporting the railway company by provision and maintenance of bicycle stands and park + ride locations.





Website Naturns village







South Tyrol / Alto Adige

Bahnangebot mehr als verdoppelt







South Tyrol / Alto Adige

Passenger information:
Info screens and real time information







AUTONOME PROVINZ BOZEN - SUDTIROL

Abteilung 38 - Mobilitar



PROVINCIA AUTONOMA DI BOLZANO - ALTO ADIGE

2.4.2014

Ripartizione 36 - Mobilità





South Tyrol / Alto Adige

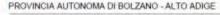
Percha Station: Directly to the ski slope - by train!



AUTONOME PROVINZ BOZEN - SÚDTIROL

Abteilung 38 - Mobilität









South Tyrol / Alto Adige Bicycle



Great success of train + bike on the Vinschgerbahn, some capacity constraints. The countrywide project train + bicycle rental (also e-bikes) will continue; meanwhile "Südtirol bicycle" hire and battery exchange points at 14 railway stations and 33 bicycle rentals.





Pustertal Railway stations



A careful interface formation between nature and technology, also at the entrances for pedestrians to the station and park + ride, is focused countrywide.



Vinschgau Railway stations



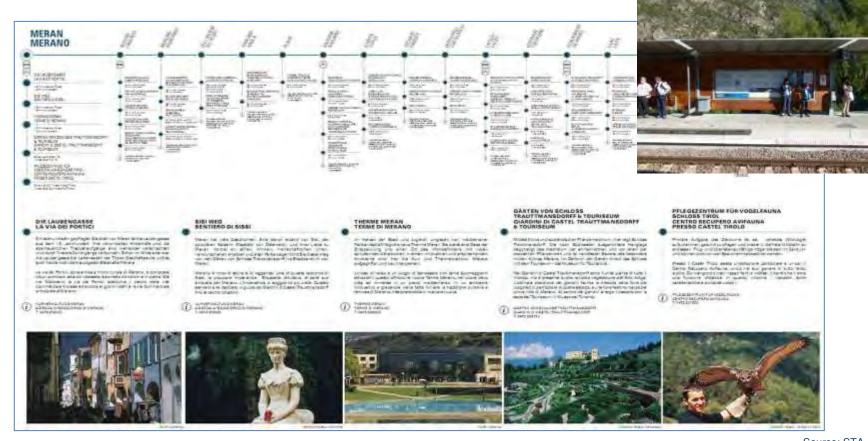


With the new, state-owned organization structure new ways were choosen. For example, the previously perfectly restored stations were supplemented with modern waiting areas and information devices and then placed in the custody of the Venosta Valley ("Vinschger") communities.





Information at stations



Source: STA

Clear, attractive and self-explanatory information at stations contribute to the fact that also longer waiting time is accepted. Especially welcomed is information to the environment of the station, that can be understood by children, for example, simply illustrated descriptions of the surrounding paths and attractions.



Usedomer Bäderbahn (Germany)







2.4.2014

Dedicated approach

- Deutsche Bahn (DB) defined the UBB to a pilot project for the regionalization of secondary railway lines and implemented that project quickly and forcefully.
- The UBB, as specially formed 100% owned subsidiary of DB AG (now DB Regio) in 1995, is an "integrated" railway undertaking. The company took over 54 km of railway tracks, all (desolate) stations and vehicles.
- Instead of the ferry a new combined road and rail bridge was built from the island Usedom to the mainland and ensured the formerly missing connection to the long-distance rail network.
- Since 2002 the UBB has extended its service to Stralsund within the framework of project "Vorpommernbahn" using the DB electrified main line.
- 2008, the former line was extended once more to the polish town of Swinoujscie.



Corporate processes

- All activities of the regional planning processes take into account the UBB line: Planned residential areas were laid directly to the railroad tracks in the vicinity of the stop.
- New stops even for tourist destinations were created.
- Outside the swimming season UBB runs every hour.
- In the summer season the interval is partially shortened and trains run every half hour.
- Trains to Stralsund run in a 2-hour interval over the DB main line.
- In addition fast trains from Berlin and Cologne are operated to Usedom island.
- The timetable provides enough buffer time for loading of bikes, the reliability is over 99% overall train journeys.
- UBB –trains are clearly visible from the main street where in the high season, however, often extended jams occur.





Nuanced use of UBB stations













UBB staff



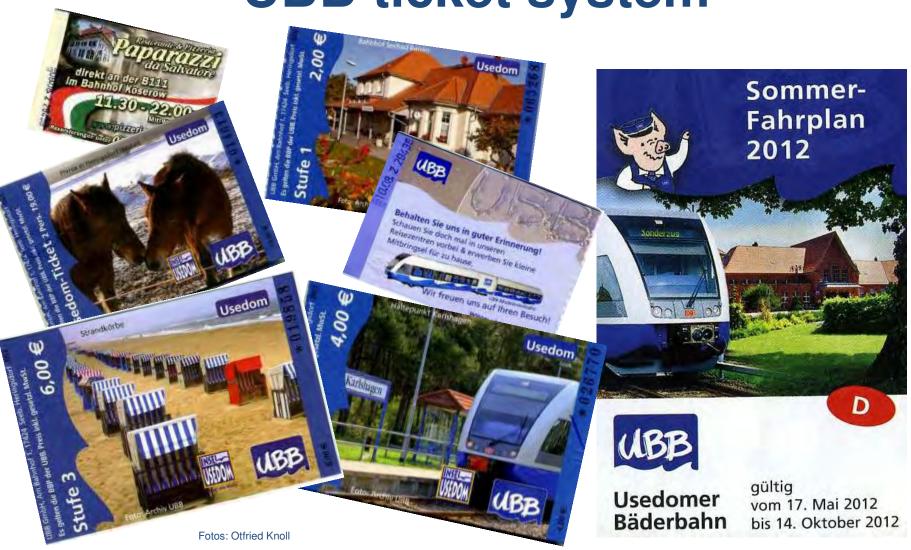








UBB ticket system







Usedom bicycle and railway











The UBB way to success

According to their CEO, important factors for the success of UBB were the following:

- The structure as an integrated railway company.
- The continuation of UBB-trains using the DB tracks to Stralsund.
- The regular timetable (Taktfahrplan) with seasonal extensions.
- The decision-making on site.
- The highly motivated team of employees.
- The close links to regional policy and its support.
- The consideration of the railway accessibility in the land-use-planning.
- The close involvement in the regional tourism activities.
- The consistent branding across the region as well as a region wide.
 cultivated style of railway stations.
- The web-awareness in tourist services.
- The appear in all regional brochures.





What is important?







Excellent view and space for all...









Both in tourism & everyday traffic









Trainsets for all target groups







Smart: Cinema-style seating











Clever: First class in the first row







Usable also for everyday user





Comfortable seats, functional luggage compartments and large windows through which you can also look if you have to ride standing up - important features for a contemporary everyday market presence.





Space for luggage and sports equipment











Livable atmosphere

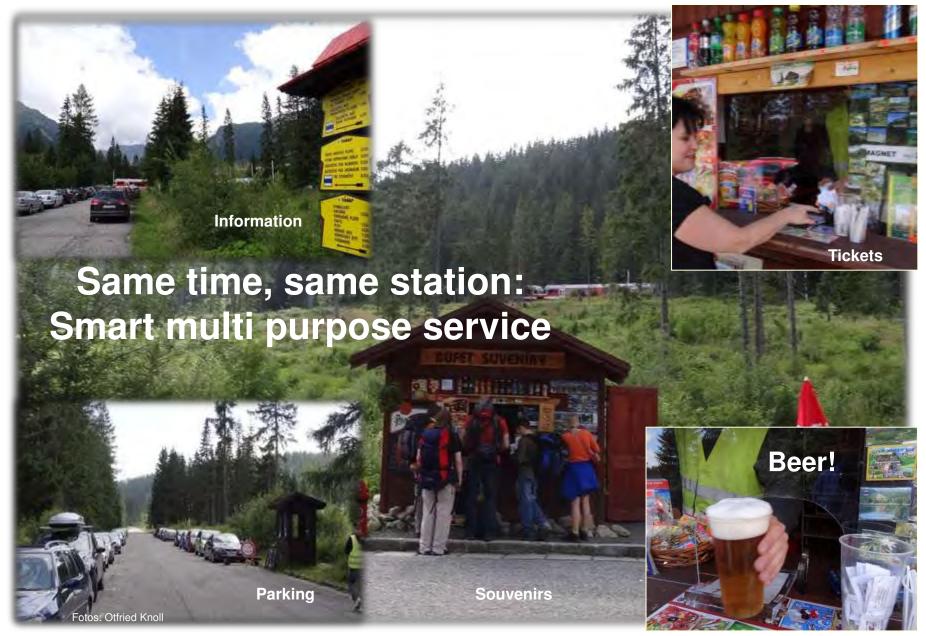
































Success factors

- Task oriented structure of the railway company.
- Railways as part of regional and local transport strategies and land-use plans.
- Population density.
- Intensity of overnight stays of guests.
- Connections to main railway lines and/or continous connections over local and main lines.
- Coordination and operational linkage with buses ("last mile").
- Enough space on trains.
- Attractive timetables, reliable connections, understandable information, friendly and helpful staff.



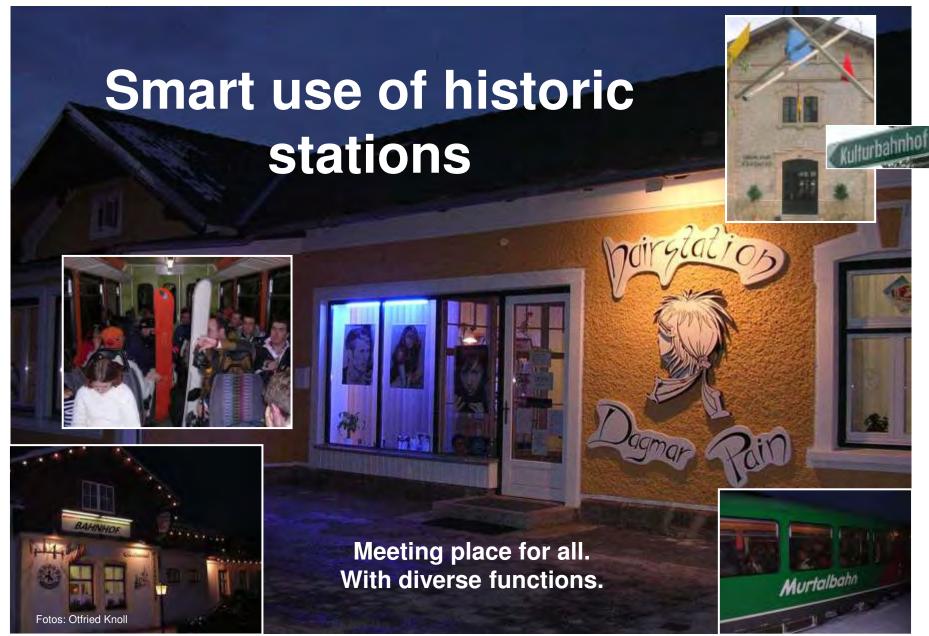


Success factors

- Hotels and agencies as partners for ticket sale.
- Offers for and active contact to schools.
- Day tickets for trains and regional public transport, bonus cards, combination tickets with other means of transport (e.g. ships).
- Market penetration: Conscious of railways and their offers.
- Linking the local population by promoting rail offers in clubs, schools, especially with children in any form.
- Travel-centres at the stations.
- Gastronomy at the stations.











Contemporary interior of stations











No question of nostalgia







Modern design for regional services







Challenges

- To combine modern technology with understanding of tradition and regionalism is both a challenge and guarantee for success.
- But only if this is done in a very customer-oriented way.
- All that includes courage, expertise and, above all, a feeling for relationships and needs of the region and their guests.
- Regional railways that are oriented close to the market are the best deal to be mobile in a region in a reason-oriented way.
- Such regional railways will survive all discussions.





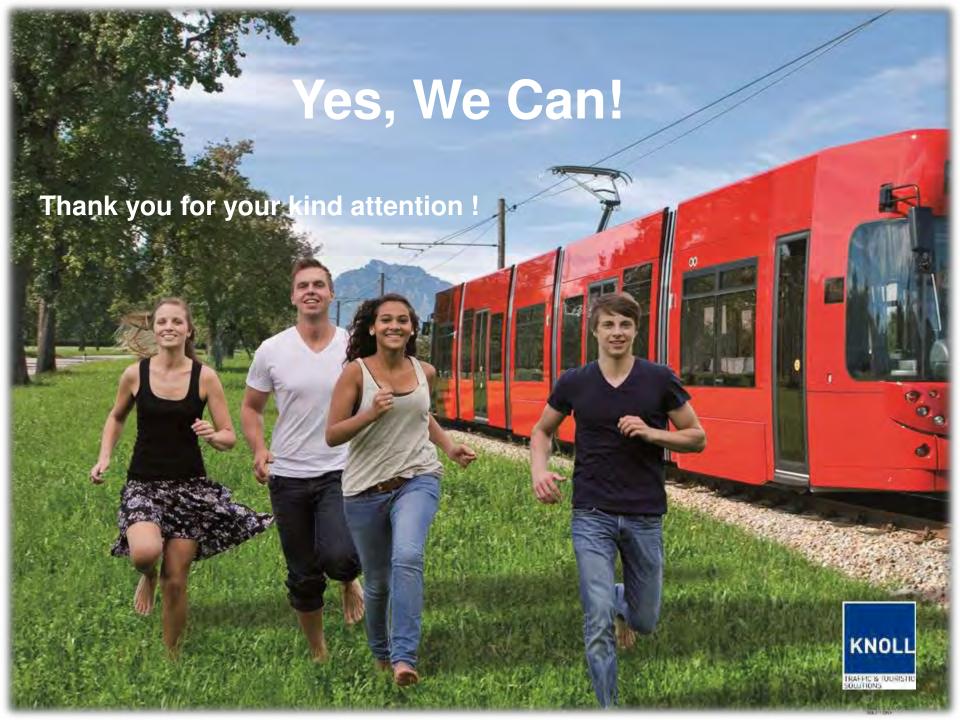
What is really important?







2.4.2014



Link to the full report

The detailed report on which this presentation is based is termed

ACCESS2MOUNTAIN

Work Package 4

Regional & Narrow Gauge Railways.

http://www.access2mountain.eu/SiteCollectionDocuments/Best-practices-Railway Deutsch Mai 2012.pdf

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