

GB Railfreight extends haulage contract with Network Rail

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GB Railfreight (GBRf) one of the country's largest rail freight operators has extended its haulage contract with Network Rail, the owner and infrastructure manager of the UK mainline railway network. Effective from 1 April 2024, the contract is a two-year extension with an option for a third year.

GBRf will continue to provide critical services essential for the smooth operation of Network Rail's engineering works and renewals. This includes the provision of possession trains and the movement of Network Rail wagons to support engineering trains, with up to 16 daily trains dedicated to network services.

In addition, GBRf will continue to operate bulk services, facilitating the transportation of stone from quarries to Network Rail's Logistics Delivery Centres (LDCs). With up to four daily trains allocated for bulk services, this essential function ensures a steady supply of materials to key locations, including the LDCs.

The agreement includes the continuation of GBRf operation of the LDCs at Whitemoor, Eastleigh and Bescot. These strategic locations play a pivotal role, enabling efficient distribution of materials and equipment necessary for the successful delivery of maintenance, renewal, and enhancement projects

across the rail network.

Commenting on the contract extension, John Smith, GBRf's CEO said, "We are delighted to extend our partnership with Network Rail, further cementing our role in supporting the operation and maintenance of the UK's rail infrastructure. We're proud to deliver reliable and high-quality services that contribute to the continued success of the UK rail industry."

Mark Dickinson, Director, Supply Chain Services at Network Rail, said: "By extending our contract with GB Railfreight, we can continue to move our essential engineering materials safely and efficiently across the country to support projects that deliver a better railway for passengers and freight customers."