

## Technical Assessment and Approval of Workshops “Combined Audits” with ECM Certifiers

### **Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/779 (from 16/05/2019)**

Since Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/779 entered into force, every keeper must appoint an “Entity in Charge of Maintenance” (ECM) for its wagons. This ECM must be certified.

One of four functions to be performed by an ECM is that of “maintenance delivery”. Most ECMs do not perform maintenance; rather, they contract with maintenance workshops for this purpose. Regardless, the ECM is responsible for ensuring that the workshop that has taken over the function of maintenance delivery also satisfies the rules of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/779.

### **Conformity evaluation**

The ECM must develop a system for monitoring conformity with Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/779 for outsourced maintenance services. This includes the requirement of supplier audits by the ECM as well as other measures.

The assumption of conformity is highest for a workshop with ECM certificate (third party audit), followed by supplier evaluations (second party audit).

With the technical assessment (TA) and technical approval, VERS offers a significant tool for ECMs to evaluate the conformity of the outsourced work. Moreover, the technical assessment also covers some of the required supplier evaluations. The basis for the technical assessment is always the VPI-EMG (VPI European Maintenance Guide).

### **Minimise workload by combining ECM certification and TA**

Many items are identical between the ECM certification of workshops and a technical assessment. To reduce the workload for ECMs and workshops, the ECM audit and technical assessment can be combined.

VERS has concluded framework agreements with qualified certification companies for this purpose and offers combined audits (ECM+TA).

After passing the combined audit, the workshop receives a legally valid ECM certificate from the ECM certifier and a technical approval from VERS.