

FORECAST OF TRANSPORT DEMAND IN 1984

The Commission has now completed its work on the 1984 forecasts for inland transport of goods.

A summary of the forecast is as follows:

Increased demand for transport

The upswing of Gross Domestic Product during the fourth quarter of 1983 and its expected further growth in 1984 results in the most optimistic expectations for transport demand since 1979.

The 2.4% growth in total tonnage in border-crossing transport between the Member States in 1983 is expected to rise to 4% for 1984.

With a total of 438 mil. tonnes transported in 1984 transport activity will again reach the 1979 level.

For 1984 a further increase in road transport of 6.5% is expected while a rise of 2.6% is foreseen for inland waterways. Rail transport stabilizes at its 1983 level.

Forecasts (1984) of border-crossing transport of goods between Member States (in mil. tonnes), figures shown in brackets give percentage change from

	<u>1983</u>							
	<u>Road</u>		<u>Rail</u>		<u>Inland waterways</u>		<u>Total</u>	
1984	195	(6.5%)	60	(0.1%)	183	(2.6%)	438	(4.0%)

Forecasts (1984) of market shares for the three modes of transport

	<u>Road</u>	<u>Rail</u>	<u>Inland waterways</u>
1984	44.5	13.7	41.8

Market share of road transport increases further

At Community level, market share of road transport will increase by 2.0% over the period 1982/1984, while both rail and inland waterways lose about 1%.

The full forecast will be published in the course of the next few weeks.