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## Who we are

The Z-Freunde International or, in short ZFI is an association of Z-scale model train enthusiasts mainly based in Europe, but also in many other countries around the world. The spectrum of our members range from the „game railroaders“ to the collectors, to the experienced modelers who build their locomotives or rolling stocks by their own; Landscapers and „home builder“ can be found here as well as the professionals in the field of digital train control technologies.

Our joint goal is to increase the awareness of the Z scale. We are expanding the restricted range of accessories for our Z scale by creating ideas, discussing possible ways of realization and finally bringing them into reality together with a small batch manufacturer or within our community. You'll be amazed about the variety of accessories that are manufactured using laser cut materials, 3D printing or etching technique and is not found in any shop nearby.

We also try to advise small and large manufacturers in the selection and implementation of future models.

## Our offerings

### Internetforum

At the website [www.z-freunde-international.de](http://www.z-freunde-international.de) we operate a noncommercial, ad free forum open for everyone. There you can find a huge variety of information and ideas on all topics around the Z scale. Forum members will either answer to questions placed by beginners as well as discussing complex problems. Quite a number of models and accessories take origins from these discussions. Signing up for the forum is free of charge, membership in the Z-Freunde-International e.V. is not required!

### Regional Round Tables

Regionally many round tables have been formed. Usually they take origin from our forum. In some cases members of independent round tables are also active in the forum. This round tables offer you the opportunity to meet fellow model railroaders in your area and discuss with them about our common hobby. A map with their locations and their contact persons can be found at: [www.z-freunde-international.de](http://www.z-freunde-international.de)

### Trade shows and own events

Every second year the ZFI hold the International Z scale weekend in Altenbeken. This is the world's largest exhibition dedicated to model railway in scale 1:220. In addition, members and round tables are involved on a variety of large and small exhibitions throughout the year. Perhaps you are interested, to even be „on the other side“ and introduce your layout, your hobby to the public as exhibitor?

### Limited railroad wagon

Every year the ZFI create a special limited railroad wagon. These wagons are replicas of models that are not yet available as a model and developed in close cooperation with model railway manufacturers. Besides that, we also create special wagons in occasion of our own events like the Z weekend. All models are available in the free sale; Members of Z-Freunde-International e.V. get an early opportunity to pre-order and get discounts on price.

## The Sponsoring Organisation

European law requires that for events such as our international Z weekend a legal person is necessary. Otherwise a private person would be liable for with their private assets. For this reason and in order to operate our website and forum independently from being a single individual, we founded the „Z-Freunde-International e.V.“, as the sponsoring organization and legal entity. The membership fees and donations from supporters secure our common activities.

If you want to support the Z scale and our common hobby, we always welcome new members!

An application form can be downloaded on our forum.

More information can be found:

- On the Internet at [www.z-freunde-international.de](http://www.z-freunde-international.de)
- By mail: [info@z-freunde-international.de](mailto:info@z-freunde-international.de)
- Or use our info phone: +49 89 215 538 242

