



Rail Technology & Interoperability Conference

by informa •••

20 – 21 OCTOBER 2026 | SWISSOTEL SYDNEY

SHAPING A CONNECTED FUTURE

KEYNOTE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM:



Michael Hopkins, *CEO, National Transport Commission*



Alan Fedda, *Chief Executive Officer, ARISO*



Jessica Linsell, *Director Policy, Programs and Planning, ONRSR*



Graham Nelmes, *General Manager - Customer, Place and Operations, High-Speed Rail Authority*



Joanne Wust, *Group CEO, 4Tel & 4AI Systems*



Adrian Teaha, *Chief Interoperability and Development Officer, ARTC*

PLUS, EXPERT INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM:



Bill Palazzi, *Director, Palazzi Rail*



Stephen Lemon, *Executive Director, Rail Systems & Operations Reform, National Transport Commission*



Carly Grigg, *Industry Engagement Manager, Industry Skills Australia*



Carla Garvie, *Commercial Director, Alstom*



Dr Christian Christodoulou, *Chief Engineer & Acting Executive Director - Prioritisation & Asset Management, Transport for NSW*



Mick Spiers, *Head of Operations, Siemens Mobility Australia & New Zealand*



Dr Frank Heibel, *Director, Doc Frank Rail Services*



Claire Pierce, *ETCS Program Passenger Rollingstock and Signalling Branch | Rail Division, Department of Transport and Main Roads*



Troy Sparkman, *EGM Freight & Motive Systems, Downer*



Harry Li, *CBTC Assurance Engineer, Metro Trains Melbourne*



Paul Williams, *Group Technology Officer/CIO, Pacific National*



Andrew Harvey, *Program Manager, Aurizon*



Lisa Bale, *Director, VET Compliance, Future Skills Organisation*



Dr Anthony MacDonald, *Director - Traffic Management Systems APAC, Hitachi Rail*



Simon Vaux, *CEO, DEOS Digital*



Stephen Muscat, *Managing Director, Rail Confidence*

Rail Technology & Interoperability Conference

Tuesday 20 October 2026

DAY 1

8:00 Conference Registration & Welcome Coffee

8:50 **Event Opening**

Kate Twentyman, *Conference Director, Informa*

8:55 **OPENING | Morning Briefing**

Bill Palazzi, *Director, Palazzi Rail*

A CONNECTED FUTURE

9:00 **TRACKSIDE TALK | Demystifying standards, regulation, and interoperability**

Michael Hopkins, *CEO, National Transport Commission*

Alan Fedda, *Chief Executive Officer, ARISO*

Jessica Linsell, *Director Policy, Programs and Planning, ONRSR*

TRACKSIDE IN ACTION SESSION

9:30 **Interoperability in action: The NTC's role in shaping a connected rail network**

Stephen Lemon, *Executive Director, Rail Systems & Operations Reform, National Transport Commission*

9:50 **Interoperability and the modern regulator: Balancing safety, productivity, and progress**

Jessica Linsell, *Director Policy, Programs and Planning, ONRSR*

10:10 **Interoperability and standards: Building a harmonised framework**

Alan Fedda, *Chief Executive Officer, ARISO*

10:30 **MORNING WRAP UP | Shaping a connected future Q&A**

10:40 Networking and refreshment break

TRACKS OF INNOVATION

11:10 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS | Interoperability at the core: Shaping Australia's high-speed rail network**

Graham Nelmes, *General Manager - Customer, Place and Operations, High-Speed Rail Authority*

11:40 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

12:10 **CASE STUDY | Fixing the system, not just the signals: Modernising Australia's national rail network**

Adrian Teaha, *Chief Interoperability and Development Officer, ARTC*



12:40 Lunch and networking break

13:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION | Digital transformation in rail: Maximising outcomes**

- Collaboration vs. individual interests: How can stakeholders align for national benefit?
- Integration challenges: Ensuring seamless outcomes across state implementations
- Interoperability management plan: What does it mean and why is it critical?
- Parameters for agreement vs. acceptable differences and why we should care about these distinctions
- Beyond interoperability: Economic benefits for Australia and New Zealand

Moderated by: Bill Palazzi, *Director, Palazzi Rail*

Adrian Teaha, *Chief Interoperability and Development Officer, ARTC*

Dr Christian Christodoulou, *Chief Engineer & Acting Executive Director - Prioritisation & Asset Management, Transport for NSW*

Dr Frank Heibel, *Director, Doc Frank Rail Services*

Stephen Lemon, *Executive Director, Rail Systems & Operations Reform, National Transport Commission*

INTEGRATION & INTEROPERABILITY

14:10 **CASE STUDY | Digital connectivity in the rail corridor: Roadmap for Southeast Queensland**

Claire Pierce, *Rail Corridor Digital Connectivity Project Manager, Passenger Rollingstock and Signalling Branch, Rail Division, Department of Transport and Main Roads*

14:40 **Digital transformation in rail: Innovating rail networks**

Dr Anthony MacDonald, *Director - Traffic Management Systems APAC, Hitachi Rail*

15:10 **De-risking ETCS rollout through digital twin testing**

Dr Frank Heibel, *Director, Doc Frank Rail Services*

15:40 Networking and refreshment break

15:55 **CASE STUDY | Integrating RAMS engineering for successful project delivery in railway systems**

Harry Li, *Senior CBTC Assurance Engineer, Metro Trains Melbourne*

DECARBONISATION & INTEROPERABILITY

16:25 **CASE STUDY | Aurizon's decarbonisation program**

John Nissen, *Decarbonisation Commercial Manager, Asset Management & Strategy, Aurizon*

FUTURE WORKFORCE

16:55 **Building Australia's digital workforce**

Lisa Bale, *Director, VET Compliance, Future Skills Organisation*

Carly Grigg, *Industry Engagement Manager, Industry Skills Australia*

17:25 Closing remarks from the Chair

17:35 End of Day One & Exhibition Networking Function



Rail Technology & Interoperability Conference

Wednesday 21 October 2026

DAY 2

8:50 Admin and safety briefing

8:55 **OPENING | Morning Briefing**

Claire Pierce, *Rail Corridor Digital Connectivity Project Manager, Passenger Rollingstock and Signalling Branch, Rail Division, Department of Transport and Main Roads*

DIGITAL TRANSPORTATION REVOLUTION

9:00 **Leveraging smart technologies for a connected future**

Mick Spiers, *Head of Operations, Siemens Mobility Australia & New Zealand*

9:30 **Towards a seamless rail network: Interoperability, digital integration and what's next for Australia**

Carla Garvie, *Commercial Director, Alstom*

TECHNOLOGY TO MARKET JOURNEY

10:00 **CASE STUDY | Learnings from the US: Trialling new technologies through accelerator programs**

Joanne Wust, *Group CEO, 4Tel & 4AI Systems*

10:30 **CASE STUDY | Depot of the future: How does maintenance look in the future of rail?**

Sumant Datta, *Head of APAC, Future Maintenance Technologies (FMT)*

COLLABORATION

11:00 **National coordination: Streamlining coordination and control within Australia's rail sector**

Stephen Lemon, *Executive Director, Rail Systems & Operations Reform, National Transport Commission*

11:30 Networking and refreshment break

FREIGHT OPERATOR PERSPECTIVES

12:00 **CASE STUDY | Interoperability and implementation: Lessons from Aurizon**

Andrew Harvey, *Program Manager, Aurizon*

12:30 **Freight excellence: Advancing motive systems and sustainable rail operations**

Troy Sparkman, *EGM Freight & Motive Systems, Downer*

13:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION | Advancing freight operations through technology: Benefits, investments, and opportunities**

Moderated by: Claire Pierce, *Rail Corridor Digital Connectivity Project Manager, Passenger Rollingstock and Signalling Branch, Rail Division, Department of Transport and Main Roads*
Troy Sparkman, *EGM Freight & Motive Systems, Downer*
Andrew Harvey, *Program Manager, Aurizon*

13:40 Lunch and networking break

DIGITAL ENGINEERING & STANDARDS HARMONISATION

14:30 **Shaping the future of digital engineering: Revolutionising data management**

Simon Vaux, *CEO, DEOS Digital*

15:00 **CASE STUDY | Aligning technical standards for greater interoperability between urban and regional rail**

Stephen Muscat, *Managing Director, Rail Confidence*

TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION LANDSCAPE

15:30 **CLOSING DISCUSSION | Opportunities and challenges of introducing technology into Australia**

Moderated by: Joanne Wust, *Group CEO, 4Tel & 4AI Systems*
Paul Williams, *Group Technology Officer/CIO, Pacific National*
Further panellists to be advised

16:10 Closing remarks from the Chair

16:15 End of Conference

SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES

The Rail Technology & Interoperability event is the premier platform for advancing innovation, integration, and collaboration within the rail industry.

As a sponsor or exhibitor, you'll have the chance to showcase your solutions, demonstrate your expertise, and position your brand at the forefront of rail technology and interoperability advancements.

For sponsorship opportunities, please email sarah.ingram@informa.com or call +61 406 530 043.

NEXT GENERATION CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

Do you have an idea that could drive innovation or bring greater awareness to rail technology and interoperability in Australia?

We invite all rail sector personnel aged 30yrs and under to submit their innovative ideas for the opportunity to win one of 10 scholarships to attend the Rail Technology & Interoperability Conference.

Winners Receive:

- Complimentary conference attendance
- Networking opportunities with industry leaders
- Certificate of acknowledgement
- Featured profile on the Next Generation Hub in the event app

Key Dates:

- Submissions close: 18 September 2026

Open to recent graduates and rail professionals 30 years or under (as at 20 October 2026). Maximum 3 winners per organisation.

VISIT: www.informa.com.au/railtech for more information



Rail Technology & Interoperability Conference

20 – 21 October 2026 | Swissotel Sydney

Easy Ways to Register

- 1 Web**
www.informa.com.au/railtech
- 2 Telephone**
+61 (0)2 9080 4307 – Quoting P26M05
- 3 Email**
info@informa.com.au – Quoting P26M05

Scan to Book



Stay Connected



Informa_Transport

Pricing Details

Register Early & Save	Super Early Bird Rate				Early Bird Rate			Standard Rate		
	Book & pay by 17 July 2026				Book & pay until 28 Aug 2026			Book & pay from 29 Aug 2026		
Conference Package	PRICE	GST	TOTAL	SAVE	PRICE	GST	TOTAL	PRICE	GST	TOTAL
Two Day Conference	\$1,995	\$199.50	\$2,194.50	\$880	\$2,395	\$239.50	\$2,634.50	\$2,795	\$279.50	\$3,074.50
Two Day Conference – Young Professional Rate	\$995	\$99.50	\$1,094.50	\$500	\$1,295	\$129.50	\$1,424.50	\$1,495	\$149.50	\$1,644.50

VENUE DETAILS

Swissotel Sydney, 68 Market St, Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: (02) 9238 8888, www.swissotel.com/sydney

For full terms and conditions, please visit:
www.informa.com.au/railtech

SPECIAL 12% ACCOMMODATION RATE

Visit the event website for instructions and further details to claim a 12% discount off the best available flexible room.

www.informa.com.au/railtech

NEAREST TRAINS

Conveniently located in the heart of Sydney's Central Business District, Swissotel Sydney is moments away from the **Sydney Light Rail**, has direct underground access to trains at **Town Hall train station** and is only short walk away to **St. James train station** and **Gadigal Metro station**.

