



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA

RTSA

Railway Technical Society of Australasia

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
12 MAY 2008.**

SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL ISSUES DISCUSSED

- New Zealand Chapter** The New Zealand Chapter has been formally established and its inaugural AGM was held on 1st April 2008 when a large and enthusiastic attendance was recorded.
- Metro Symposium** Following the recent announcement made by the New South Wales State Government regarding the proposal to build a new metro line in Sydney, the RTSA is organizing a technical symposium at which both local and international speakers will make presentations designed to raise public awareness as to what is metro technology, how it differs from a traditional heavy rail system and what possible benefits a metro is likely to bring to Sydney. This RTSA symposium will be hosted by the New South Wales Chapter and it will be held in the Sydney Customs House on Wednesday 12th November 2008. Further details will be publicised soon.
- Succession Planning** Further actions have been initiated to identify people, at both Executive and Chapter level, who can be encouraged to participate in a succession plan that is designed to secure the future activities and management of the RTSA.
- Eminent Speaker Tour** Mr. Andrew McCusker, who is the Operations Director of the Hong Kong Mass Transit Railway Corporation has agreed to conduct an Eminent Speaker Tour to all RTSA Chapters immediately prior to CORE2008. Details of the Tour will be advertised within the next few weeks.
- CORE 2008** A further Conference Progress Report was received at the meeting and it was recorded that excellent progress is being made with all arrangements for this important event.
- CORE2010** CORE2010 will be held in Wellington, New Zealand, (proposed dates are between 12th & 14th Septembers 2010). An Organising Committee already has been established and preliminary discussions have been put in hand.

RTSA Business & Marketing Plans	It has been agreed that a detailed review shall be carried out on the contents of the RTSA Business Plan (which was established in 1997) and the Marketing Plan (which was prepared in 2006) with particular reference to the provisions of the present RTSA Constitution.
RTSA Website	Discussions were held about the redesigned RTSA website and opportunities for further improvement in the website maintenance were identified. Chapters will take responsibility to update their own activities and related presentations on the website.
RTSA History Book	Excellent progress is being made with regards to the drafting of the 10-years History book, in which history of the RTSA will be recorded. It is expected that the draft text will be presented to the members of the review panel within the month of May. The RTSA is planning to have copies of the book available for CORE2008 with RTSA members entitled to a free copy.
Awards	It was concluded that the age limit for the Young Railway Engineers Award shall be increased from 30 years to 35 years to conform with the Engineers Australia definition of a young engineer. The details contained in the nomination form will be adjusted accordingly.
Presentations to Universities	It was agreed to conduct presentations to University undergraduate students highlighting railway activities and opportunities within the railway industry.
Professional Development	ActivitiesThe RTSA has been recognised within the engineering fraternity for its leadership in professional development activities for the whole industry sector. The Executive Committee is determined to facilitate further opportunities to share knowledge on professional development within the industry and to help young people, from within the industry, to gain professional recognition.
Journal for Railway Innovation and Research	The RTSA will facilitate railway-related innovations and research to be published through the Engineers Australia Technical Journal system. They will be published in the Transport Engineering in Australia (TEA) journal and, if there are enough contributions, options will be explored for the publication of special editions of the journal on Railway Technology.
RTSA Corporate Membership	Significant interest has been shown by particular organisations from within the railway industry in the initiatives that have taken by the RTSA with regards to professional development and technical innovation and, as a result, they have become Corporate Members of the Society. Other railway organisations, who share an

interest in the activities of the RTSA, are invited to become Corporate Members also.

Sub-Committee Chairs

It has been concluded that all RTSA sub-committee chairs, or their representatives, will be invited to attend RTSA Executive meetings (held twice a year) in order to improve communication between the members of the Executive and the sub-committees.