

# Priorities for the RTSA

Accelerated Learning  
(For the industry and individuals)

# Context

The Railway Technical Society of Australasia is:

- A Technical Society of Engineers Australia
- Affiliated with IPENZ
- Comprises (approx 1,200) mainly individual members, some Corporate members

# Framework

- **EA's charter is to:**
  - *Be the national forum for the advancement of engineering and the **professional development** of our members*
- **RTSA's charter is to:**
  - *Provide learned society functions for **all** who have an interest in railway technology and management and to provide practice-based opinion and advice to Engineers Australia*
  - *Promote the **cooperation** of academic, industrial, commercial and governmental organisations in relation to the practice and advancement of railway technology and management in Australasia*

# For RTSA This Means

- Providing educational and networking services such as meetings and forums
- Providing educational resources such as access to publications and news
- Facilitating accredited personal development such as achieving Chartered Status and providing CPD events
- Ensuring there are sufficient rail technologists to respond to Australia's requirements
- Contributing to knowledge

# Main Priorities

- Provide educational events for its members
- Facilitation of Chartered Status through the PDP (Professional Development Program)
  - RTSA conducts a scheme to assist with the process, mentoring, Career Episode Reporting
- Unfolding the intellectual wealth of the industry (in association with the CRC and educational facilities) and adding to it
- Organising for university presentations - in association with AAEE- (Australian Association for Engineering Education)

# Priority Activities

- PDP information meetings
- Conducting CORE conferences
- Acting locally through local Chapter meetings and seminars
- Distributing industry news and providing technical information that helps stakeholders with decision making
- Offering awards for meritorious contributions to the industry
- Making presentations to potential members of the industry at university and through YEA
- Meet the Railway People Expo (in Melbourne on Sept 12, Hyatt on the Park)

# Challenges

- **Intellectual Property**  
(What information is the industry prepared to share for individuals to inform themselves?)
- **Overlapping organisation objectives**  
(Will cooperation between the associations be enough to prevent turf wars or should we formalise the situation?)
- **Industry Structure**  
(Will the industry return to silo organisations? – privatisation and uncertainty has forced greater “open” information sharing of standards and knowledge across states and jurisdictions, but has decreased structured learning within those institutions)
- **Learning**  
(Can the universities and other common access learning institutions become the new structured learning bodies?)

# We Need Help Too!

- Event coordination (ARA, ARIC, IRSE, EA, PWI, RTAA, IPENZ, CRC)
- Information availability (publications, research reports, student notes, industry news & analysis)
- Joint participation in events
- Joint participation in industry issues

# Opportunities

- Access to news, information and technology information to enable self-learning, inter-operability and contribution from members
- Complimentary (not competing) activities between organisations
- Structured learning by registered training organisations using common technology standards
- Expansion of industry capability with increasing numbers of young entrants, multi-skilled entrants from other industries, continuing education of existing members

# Summary

To assist in developing a technology roadmap for the next 20 years, the RTSA will :

- Promote and provide educational and networking services via events, meetings, forums and presentations
- Distribute industry news and provide technical information to stakeholders
- Distribute the intellectual wealth of the industry and build on it
- Seek assistance from other associations
- Progress existing and future opportunities

It all Adds up To

Accelerated Learning