

Executive Committee Meeting - 15/16 Mar 10



Summary of Principal Issues Discussed

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE CHAIR

Since the meeting of the Executive held in November 2010 a successful search has been concluded to identify a Deputy Executive Chair. The selected candidate is Mr. Simon Wood from New Zealand who was welcomed to the Executive at its March meeting. Mr. Wood will assume the responsibilities of the Executive Chair immediately following the RTSA Annual General Meeting in September.

PROJECT PLANNING OFFICER

As previously discussed, the Executive has concluded that it is necessary to employ a Project Planning Officer whose principal task it will be to lend assistance to the pursuit of specific initiatives as identified by the Executive from time-to-time. Mr. Peter Bishop has been employed to fulfill this role and his duties also began at the March Executive meeting.

SPECIAL INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES

Tom Hampton, Candice Ng and Darrien Welsby have joined the Executive as Special Interest Representatives.

STRATEGIC PLAN

It has been concluded that the recently developed Strategic Plan will benefit from a professionally facilitated review and arrangements are to be put in place to undertake this process in July.

RTSA BRANDING

The Executive acknowledges that the current branding and image of the RTSA may not be as widely recognized as it should be and that this is inhibiting the level of participation in the initiatives of the Technical Society. This being the case, it has been agreed that, in the first place, a professionally directed market research survey shall be carried out with the objective of collecting information that then can form the basis of an associated project plan. Preliminary work on the arrangements for the market research survey is to begin immediately.

RTSA WEBSITE

As a result of the decision to conduct the market research survey, it has been decided that it will be premature to undertake a total redesign of the RTSA website. However, work still is to be undertaken to improve the functionality of the site.

SOCIAL NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

It is recognized by the Executive that social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube have an important role to play as channels for wide communication in present day society. Opportunities for the Technical Society to make use of such sites will form part of its consideration regarding branding and image.

CORE2010

A progress report was received from the Chairman of the CORE2010 Organising Committee and the Executive was satisfied that preparations for this important event remain well in hand. Offers of sponsorship have been gratifying as has been the take up of Trade Exhibition opportunities. An unprecedented response to the Call for Abstracts resulted in over two hundred being received leaving the Technical Review Committee with an extremely difficult task in the selection of the not more than eighty papers required to fill the Conference Technical Program.

The Railway Technical Society of Australasia (RTSA)

The RTSA is a technical society of Engineers Australia and IPENZ

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CRC KNOWLEDGE BANK

Agreement was given in principle for the RTSA to provide selected materials for inclusion in the recently approved CRC electronic Knowledge Bank.

RTSA NAME BADGES

RTSA name badges for members of the Executive are to be re-issued and new badges for Chapter Committee members are to be prepared.

RTSA BROCHURE

A re-designed RTSA brochure is to be issued.

MEET THE RAILWAY PEOPLE EXPOS

Following the success of the initial Expo in Melbourne, arrangements are in hand to hold a Meet the Railway People Expo in Sydney on Saturday 24th July 2010 and another Expo is planned to be held in Brisbane later in the year.

SIR ROBERT RISSON MEMORIAL

A proposal from the Victoria Chapter for the RTSA to lend some financial support in way of seed funding for a suggested Sir Robert Risson Memorial received Executive support.

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