



Leaders in Rail Research

Research Briefs

CRC Launch

The CRC for Rail Innovation was officially launched on 27th August by Senator Kim Carr, Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research.

John Fullerton, Chairman and David George of the CRC for Rail Innovation also addressed attendees at the launch, held at Parliament House in Canberra.

In his speech Mr George said that the CRC for Rail Innovation will help solve the major challenges that our industry is facing. This includes reducing transport emissions, unleashing capacity, improving urban mobility, and developing human capabilities

Senator Carr supported this view in his speech when he said that more efficient rail equals more efficient national supply chains, and that ultimately means stronger economic growth.

The CRC for Rail Innovation has made a strong start and has ambitious plans to assist rail become an even more powerful force in the Australian transport landscape.



Minister Carr



John Fullerton



CORE

The CRC for Rail Innovation had a stand at CORE (Conference on Railway Engineering) in Perth from 7-10 September.

The information leaflets for each of the 26 active CRC Research projects proved popular with a great number of delegates.

The high level of attendance at the CORE 2008 conference confirmed the importance of rail as the solution to the challenges of both urban transport and major freight supply chains.

The conference theme - Rail, the core of integrated transport - reflected the growing role of rail as an integrated transport system, and as one of the solutions to the environmental and population pressures faced by modern society.



David George chatting to Alex Waldrop and William Peet

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New Research Projects under Consideration

The CRC for Rail Innovation is examining the potential for collaborative research in a number of exciting areas including

- Urban Transport Demand Management
- The Case for Accelerated Depreciation for the Rail Industry
- Vandalism & Graffiti
- Platform & Carriage Crowding in the Railway Industry

- Train Energy Evaluation
- Train Protection & Control System Interoperability
- Traction Motor Condition Monitoring

All CRC Participants are able to be involved in and influence these potential new areas of research.

Professor Buddhima Indraratna Awarded by IACMAG

Buddhima Indraratna, Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Wollongong and leader of the *Integrated Ballast-formation-track Design* CRC project, has been selected as the winner of the "Excellent Contributions Award: Regional". This award is given by the International Association of Computational Geomechanics (IACMAG) to acknowledge individuals who have made significant contributions in research, academic activities and professional service in the interdisciplinary area of Geomechanics.

The award was presented at the 12th IACMAG conference, Goa India on October 4, 2008 during the Gala Dinner.

Congratulations to Buddhima!



New Participants

TIDC (Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation) and RIC (Rail Infrastructure Corporation) have committed to join the CRC for Rail Innovation as supporting participants. In addition both Department of Transport Victoria (representing Victorian rail interests) and Southern Cross University have sought to become Core Participants. This firmly demonstrates that broad rail industry and university support for the CRC for Rail Innovation has now secured. The majority of Australia's rail operators and network providers are now participants of the CRC, and able to directly benefit from the \$100m 7 year research program.



Transport Infrastructure
Development Corporation

RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE
CORPORATION

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Towards a Digital Railway

David George, CEO of the CRC for Rail Innovation addressed the Queensland Chapter of the RTSA on 24 September and shared a vision of how the CRC for Rail Innovation will contribute towards the production of a "Technology Roadmap" for Australia and the achievement of a "Digital Railway". Interoperability, a common technology platform and open systems are important if the rail industry is to avoid the 21st century technology equivalent of the 19th century multiple rail gauges.

A copy of David George's presentation is available from our website at www.railcrc.net.au



Wanted Post Graduate Students (Masters and PhDs) Students

The CRC for Rail Innovation is expanding the numbers of specialists with training in the rail industry by providing post-graduate scholarships for PhD and Masters students. Both Top-up and full scholarships are available.

PhD and Masters scholarships will be awarded by the CRC. Full PhD scholarships of \$30,000/year are offered, as well as top-up stipends to Australian Postgraduate Awards (APA) and other awards, to bring the stipend up to \$30,000/year.

All scholarship holders receive a generous operating allowance and a professional development allowance of \$5,000/year, as well as industry-relevant professional development opportunities

as a member of an international research and education network.

Scholarships are offered through the CRC's university partners – Central Queensland University, Queensland University of Technology, University of Wollongong, The University of Queensland, The University of South Australia, The Southern Cross University and Monash University. Depending on the research focus, CRC postgraduate research students could also be based with the industry participants.

For further information please contact Angela Christie Executive Assistant on 07 3221 2716.

