



Rail Knowledge Bank



Background

Following the many institutional changes in the rail industry in recent years, there has been a general reduction in the availability of information and easily accessible rail knowledge within the industry. As a result, there is a strong demand for a centrally-managed rail information portal, or Knowledge Bank.

As a result of this identified need, a Knowledge Bank is being developed by the CRC for Rail Innovation in conjunction with a range of collaborators.

Objectives

The Knowledge Bank will pull together Australian and international rail-related information in an easily accessible and electronic format. Likely content includes research reports, technical information, general reports, conference papers, data sets and news items.

Collaboration

A number of organisations have agreed to provide significant access to information and to work with the CRC for Rail Innovation on this exciting project, which is planned to be self-sustaining. The ARRB Group will develop and maintain the Knowledge Bank on behalf of the CRC for Rail Innovation. ARRB are well placed to provide experienced support via the established MG Lay Library.

Benefits

The potential benefits of the Knowledge Bank include:

- * A one-stop-shop information database for the rail industry
- * Reduction in duplication of research efforts, streamlined literature reviews and confidence in originality of research
- * Contingency against widespread loss of industry knowledge through workforce retirement
- * Providing link with international research portals
- * Digitalisation of information previously available only in paper format
- * Additional source to augment rail industries' own ad hoc libraries and knowledge/ literature collections
- * Improving the rail industry's operational quality and effectiveness through knowledge sharing and learning
- * Enhancing the sharing of knowledge with our participants

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