

A Review Of The Literature On Social, Non-Technical Deterrents for Vandalism In The Rail Industry (R2.106)

Background

Vandalism incidents include malicious damage, arson and graffiti. Vandalism is an endemic and difficult to manage aspect of the rail industry and costs the rail industry millions of dollars each year. The identification of effective practices to reduce the significance and impact of vandalism will save significant financial burdens and create an improved public perception of affected railways.

Objective

This project conducted a review of international best practice in vandalism reduction and provided strategic short and long-term strategies suitable for preventing rail vandalism. The focus was on the social, non-technical deterrents of vandalism and graffiti.

Outcomes

This project

- reviewed the literature on social, non-technical deterrents for vandalism in the rail industry,
- identified best practices for input into short and long term strategies for reducing the scope and scale of vandalism and graffiti on rail property in Australia, and
- determined the need for multi-disciplinary and collaborative interventions to counter the problem of graffiti and vandalism.

Benefits

The project provided an improved understanding of rail vandalism prevention strategies that will feed into a collaborative workshop to determine the best way forward to:

- improve understanding of rail prevention strategies,
- reduce vandalism incidence and severity,
- reduce cost of vandalism removal,
- improve appeal of rail through more aesthetically pleasing rolling stock and platforms,
- improve perception of rail as an efficient manager of vandalism, and to
- provide a direction for anti-vandalism initiatives in the Australian rail industry.

Project timeframe

1 December 2008 to 29 May 2009 - Completed