

Train Protection and Control System Interoperability Issues (R3.113)

Background

Rail infrastructure owners around Australia are preparing to introduce modern, communications based, electronic train protection and control (TPC) systems, and some systems are currently in operation. The issue arises as to how to provide for trains to operate across networks with differing systems (ie ensure interoperability between TPC systems). While the many different systems available are similar in concept, the details and some principles are different.

Objective

The aim of this project is to provide background information to inform decision makers on interoperability issues and to identify further research needs in this area. This project builds on the current work that has been, and is being, done within the ARA Strategic Framework on interoperability for train communications systems for both voice and data.

Outcomes

This research summarises background information about systems in use or proposed for use across Australia, definition of interoperability, the need for interoperability, principles for interoperability and information requirements.

Benefits

Background information will assist when making interoperability decisions.

Project timeframe

1 October 2008 to 30 September 2009