



PRESS RELEASE

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Revolutionary Development for Rail A National Rule Book

Australia has suffered the well known challenge of different gauges in each state. However, over the last 150 years each state has also used their own rule books for their own track safety.

In a groundbreaking decision, the Board of the Australasian Railway Association (ARA) has agreed to publish a national rulebook designed for use by all Rail safety workers who work on track throughout Australia.

The rulebook published on 3rd March is the first of two rulebooks. It focuses on people actually working on the railway or 'working on the track' as it is commonly known in the industry.

The second stage will address those rules and procedures associated with operating trains on the network.

"We are aiming for approval of the second rulebook by this time next year" said Bryan Nye, CEO of the ARA

The National rulebook project was first conceived over 10 years ago and had languished in its development. 'The fact that the Australian Rail Industry has realised its long held objective of a national rulebook is significant and should not be understated' Mr Nye said.

"This development is a clear demonstration that the Rail Industry now operates as one industry for the national good." Mr Nye added that "The team of people responsible for developing the rulebooks have done an excellent job. They have worked long hours, often at the expense of family time, and deserve our thanks for a job well done."

"We are now looking to all Governments to endorse the move to One Rail Safety regulator. The Australian economy can no longer have its transport networks shackled by the inefficiency of jurisdictional intransigence. Safe rail regulation means one regulator not seven." concluded Mr Nye.

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