



PRESS RELEASE

Mr Bryan Nye
Chief Executive Officer
Mobile: 0400 007 951

06 March 2009

DAVID MARCHANT - NEW CHAIRMAN FOR THE AUSTRALASIAN RAILWAY ASSOCIATION

The Australasian Railway Association (ARA) is pleased to announce the appointment of David Marchant, CEO of the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) as its new Chairman.

Mr Marchant takes over from Don Telford, CEO of Asciano, who has chaired the association since July 2007.

In accepting the appointment Mr Marchant said: "I am honoured to hold the position of chairman of the ARA. It is an exciting time for the industry as government invests in the freight and passenger networks across the country."

"With the focus on climate change and the economy, Rail provides a cleaner and more cost efficient solution for the moving of both people in our congested cities and getting freight off the road on the busy inter-capital networks." Mr Marchant concluded.

Mr Marchant has been CEO of ARTC for ten years where he has spearheaded the development of the national freight network from Perth to Brisbane, including the Hunter Valley coal network. While acknowledging the unprecedented investment in rail infrastructure by the Australian Government, he emphasised that the ongoing investment in Rail must continue, in particular until a dedicated freight corridor through Sydney North is a reality.

"The rail industry is undergoing unprecedented investment from government and change. These exciting and challenging times require us to be more dynamic in providing solutions to pressing issues such as climate change, safety and regulation. Don Telford pushed Rail's case hard and the industry looks forward to the continuing strong leadership from David." said Mr Bryan Nye, CEO of the ARA

###

Media Enquiries

Dora A Ugalde
Communications Officer
Ph (02) 6270 4506
Email dugalde@ara.net.au