



The Australasian Railway Association's committees and working groups inform our policy agenda and the projects we lead on behalf of the rail industry. By being part of our committees and working groups, you can contribute to the policies and initiatives that will shape the future of our industry.

Sectoral committees and working groups



Passenger Rail

Passenger Operators Executive Committee (POEC)

Chair: Peter Lensink, Chief Officer and Managing Director, Transdev New Zealand

Represents public transport operators across Australia and New Zealand. Supports collaboration and information sharing and identifies opportunities to increase rail patronage, promote the sustainability benefits of rail, drive innovation and best practice in passenger rail and support the long term operational efficiency of public transport networks.

Accessibility Committee

Shares information and provides advice on current and future accessibility issues in the passenger rail sector, with a focus on greater coordination and collaboration across Australia and New Zealand.

Return to Rail Committee

Brings together corporate affairs, communications and customer service representatives of passenger operator organisations to identify and implement initiatives to encourage greater use of rail. Leads the development of communications strategies to support greater use of public transport across and identifies opportunities to showcase the sustainability, social and economic benefits of greater use of rail.

Telecommunications Committee

Facilitates cooperation in relation to telecommunications activities to achieve interoperability, improved functionality and increased delivery efficiency of railway communications systems. Includes a focus on Spectrum issues.

Antisocial Behaviour Network

Provides a consultative forum for passenger rail operators to discuss antisocial behaviour matters, including best practice for collective improvement to reduce assaults on staff, trespass and graffiti on the rail network.

Cybersecurity Network

Provides a consultative forum for passenger rail operators to discuss cybersecurity matters, including best practice to address potential cybersecurity instances within the rail network.

Operations Network

Provides a consultative forum for passenger rail operators to discuss operational matters, including best practice to improve operational efficiency, support investment in ageing infrastructure and inform the integration of new projects into existing rail networks.

Revenue Protection Network

Provides a consultative forum for passenger rail operators to discuss revenue protection matters, including best practice on issues such as infrastructure design, ticketing, signage and fare structures.



Supply Chain

Rail Industry Executive Committee (RIEC)

Chair: Todd Garvey, Commercial Director Australia and New Zealand, Alstom

Represents rail manufacturers and suppliers operating in the rail industry. Develops, investigates and provides policy advice to the ARA on issues relevant to manufacturers and suppliers. Leads a work plan to achieve a favourable environment for the rail manufacturing and supplier sectors to prosper.

Project i-TRACE Committee

Supports the rollout of Project iTRACE in the rail industry.

RIEC Research and Development Working Group

Focuses on increasing the visibility of Australia's research capabilities, identifying areas requiring research, and demonstrating the link between R&D and type approvals, local content, support and investment in local manufacturing and technology.



Rail Freight

Rail Freight Executive Committee (RFEC)

Chair: John McArthur, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, One Rail Australia

Represents rail freight operators, rail infrastructure managers, ports and terminals with a focus on proactive advocacy to drive change and address persistent barriers to the productivity, efficiency and competitiveness of rail freight.

Interoperability Working Group

Leads consultation with freight sector representatives to identify priority interoperability challenges for action, and opportunities to resolve them.

Rail Freight Corporate Affairs Working Group

Includes corporate affairs representatives from across rail freight sector to build a national advocacy campaign, engaging with industry and governments, to improve rail freight productivity.



Heavy Haul

Heavy Haul Executive Committee (HHEC)

Chair: Richard Cohen, Managing Director Port, Rail and Core Services, Iron Ore, Rio Tinto

Represents heavy haul rail businesses including those operating in the iron ore, coal and bulk materials and agricultural sectors. Seeks to foster collaboration and information sharing, and identify opportunities for solutions to common safety, policy, research and operational challenges.

Decarbonisation Working Group

Facilitates information sharing among rail freight operators on their progress towards decarbonisation, and identifying opportunities to progress collaborative activity to accelerate the transition.

Heavy Haul Skills and Workforce Working Group

Identifies the most urgent current and future skills gaps in the rail freight sector, particularly as a result of fleet and operational transformation due to decarbonisation, and informs dedicated ARA projects and initiatives to address these gaps at an industry level.



Contractors

Rail Infrastructure Contractors Executive Committee (RICEC)

Chair: Julian Sharp, Project Director, CPB Contractors

Represents the rail infrastructure construction sector delivering rail projects. Advocates to build a pipeline of opportunities that endure in the long term; enhance the environment and regulatory framework in which contractors operate and; establish best practice in project procurement, risk allocation, skills development, safety and construction innovation.

Cross sectoral committees and working groups



Workforce Development

Workforce Development Committee

Provides an active voice for harmonised industry training, course development and delivery across VET and higher education, and related HR matters such as remuneration, career pathways, and sharing of best practice learning and HR solutions.

REMSMART Working Group

Provides advice and feedback to inform industry data collection for the REMSMART program, including the identification of remuneration, incentive payments and other strategies that rail operators are using to attract and retain talent.

Introduction to Rail Signalling Course Review Committee

Provides oversight and resources to support the development and delivery of an ARA Introduction to Rail Signalling online course.

National SARC Governance Committee

Oversees, resources and supports the development and delivery of a national Safely Access the Rail Corridor course. Its membership includes representatives from the ARA, RISSB, MTA and NTC.

TDROSS National Reference Group

Oversees the development and delivery of the Train Driver Rail Operations Skill Set.



Rail Industry Worker Program

Rail Industry Worker Advisory Committee

The lead governance body for the Rail Industry Worker Program, setting and managing its strategic priorities.

Rail Industry Worker Operations Committee

Provides advice and guidance to support the operational performance of the Rail Industry Worker Program.

Rail Industry Worker Matrices Committee

Provides advice and guidance to support the operational performance of the Rail Industry Worker Program. Investigates and resolves a range of competency related issues that are escalated by the RIW Service Desk.

Rail Industry Worker Engineering Working Group

Determines the required competencies, medical status and any licenses required for individuals to hold in order to have a National Engineering role in the RIW system.

Rail Industry Worker Power and Electrical Working Group

Determines the required competencies, medical status and any licenses required for workers to hold in order to have a National Power and/or Electrical role in the RIW system.

Rail Industry Worker Project Management Working Group

Determines the required competencies, medical status and any licenses required for individuals to hold in order to have a National Project Management role in the RIW system.

Rail Industry Worker Signalling Working Group

Determines the required competencies, medical status and any licenses required for workers to hold in order to have a National Signalling role in the RIW system.

Rail Industry Worker Train Driver Training Working Group

Determines the required competencies, medical status and any licenses required for workers to hold in order to have a National Train Driver role in the RIW system.



Sustainability

Sustainability Committee

Leads the ARA's sustainability strategy to drive action and shape positive change in the rail industry. Provides an avenue for senior rail managers and executives to share information and discuss projects, activities and initiatives related to sustainability.

Women in Rail Committee

Focuses on enhancing gender diversity in the rail industry by sharing information on diversity and inclusion programs and overseeing the implementation of the Women in Rail strategy, which outlines a range of actions to improve female representation in the rail workforce.

Rollingstock Decarbonisation Working Group

Supports information sharing, advocacy and discussion to enable the decarbonisation of rollingstock across Australia and New Zealand, identify potential barriers to change and support a national approach to the transition.



Safety

Safety Policy Committee

Provides an opportunity for senior rail safety managers and executives to discuss key safety policy and regulatory issues and assist in developing industry positions. The committee also shares information on projects, activities and initiatives related to safety, with a particular focus on collectively improving the industry's safety culture.

For more information about who from your organisation is involved in our Committees, Working and Networking Groups, or to get involved, please email [**info@ara.net.au**](mailto:info@ara.net.au)