

Sydney NSW
9 – 10 April 2024

Rydges World
Square
Sydney



Conference Program

ARA Rail Freight Conference



**Australasian
Railway
Association**

Conference Program

Conference Day One: Tuesday 9 April 2024

Time	Session
08:00 – 08:40	Registration and Coffee
08:40 – 08:55	Welcome and Opening Remarks from the Australasian Railway Association Caroline Wilkie, CEO, Australasian Railway Association
08:55 – 09:15	Presentation - Dr Kerry Schott, Chair - Independent Advisory Panel on NSW Freight Reform Policy Program
09:15 – 09:45	Keynote Presentation – Freight Customer Priorities Mark Mazurek, CEO, Linfox
09:45 – 10:15	Presentation - Commodities market and global trends economic outlook Adrian Hart, Head of Construction and Infrastructure, BIS Oxford Economics
10:15 – 10:45	Presentation – Building National Network resilience Wayne Johnson, CEO and Managing Director, Australian Rail Track Corporation
10:45 – 11:15	Morning Break
10:45 – 11:15	YRP Meet and Greet
11:15 – 11:40	Presentation - Somerton terminal development – building Victoria's next intermodal Mishkel Maharaj, CEO, Intermodal Terminal Company
11:40 – 12:05	Presentation – Rail Freight Industry Leaders Outlook – Pacific National Saskia Groen-in't-woud, Chief Strategy and Sustainability Officer, Pacific National
12:05 – 12:50	Panel – Building Supply Chains of Tomorrow Chair: Beata Lipman, CEO, Rail First Asset Management Mark Mazurek, CEO, Linfox James Baulderstone, CEO, National Intermodal Corporation Hermione Parson, CEO, Australian Logistics Council Patrick O'Donnell, COO, Pacific National
12:50 – 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 – 13:55	Presentation - Achieving freight outcomes through interoperability and Harmonisation Brad Moorhouse, group Executive Engineering and Systems, Australian Rail Track Corporation
13:55 – 14:20	Presentation – Future of Freight Campaign Georgia Nicholls, GM Rail Freight and Heavy Haul, Australasian Railway Association
14:20 – 15:05	Panel – Freight Productivity Priorities Chair: Georgia Nicholls, GM Rail Freight and Heavy Haul, Australasian Railway Association Saskia Groen-in't-woud, Chief Strategy and Sustainability Officer, Pacific National Geoff Smith, CEO, SCT Logistics Jason Preece, Assistant Secretary, Rail Project Delivery, DITRDCA John McArthur, CEO, OneRail Wayne Johnson, CEO and Managing Director, Australian Rail Track Corporation
15:05 – 15:35	Afternoon Break
15:35 – 15:55	Presentation – Office of National Rail Safety Regulator Update Natalie Pelham, CEO, Office of National Rail Safety Regulator
15:55 – 16:15	Presentation – A Vision for National Rail Reform Carolyn Walsh, Chair, National Transport Commission
16:15 – 17:00	Panel – Driving Productivity through harmonisation Chair: Natalie Currey, GM Supply Chain and Diversity, Australasian Railway Association Nuno Guerra, Key Account Manager NSW and ACT, Siemens Mobility Harry Roberts, Technical Director (Rail), Jacobs Micheal Hopkins, CEO, National Transport Commission Damian White, CEO, Rail Industry Safety and Standards Board
17:00 – 18:30	Networking Drinks – Rydges World Square, Ballroom 1

Conference Day Two: Wednesday 10 April 2024

Time	Session
08:00 – 08:45	Registration and Coffee
08:45 – 09:00	Welcome to Day Two Danny Broad, Chair, Australasian Railway Association
09:00 – 09:15	Welcome/Parliamentary Address The Hon. Jenny Aitchison, Minister for Regional Transport and Roads
09:15 – 09:45	Presentation – Rail Freight Industry Leaders Outlook – Aurizon Andrew Harding, MD, Aurizon
09:45 – 10:15	Presentation – Gaining Momentum in 2024 Nick Miller, CEO, Inland Rail
10:15 – 10:45	Presentation – NZ Freight Market outlook Alan Piper, GM Market Development, KiwiRail
10:45 – 11:15	Morning Break
11:15 – 11:40	Presentation - Autonomous wagons revolutionising rail freight Matt Soule, CEO and Co-founder, Parallel Systems
11:40 – 12:05	Presentation – National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Paula Stagg, First Assistant Secretary, Surface Transport and Emissions Policy Division
12:05 – 12:45	Case Studies – Practical project updates on innovation projects driving rail freight sustainability MC – Tristan Anderson, Executive Advisor – Critical Infrastructure and Supply-Chain Strategy, GHD
	Simon Gilders, Head of Business Development, Arc Infrastructure
	Paul Fergusson, Strategic Rolling Stock Consultant, Jacobs
12:45 – 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 – 13:55	Presentation - Activating freight customers and councils to build the case for freight rail Reid Mather, CEO, Rail Freight Alliance
13:55 – 14:20	Presentation – Building the case for High Speed Rail with shared freight running Milind Nirmal, Executive Director – Asia Pacific, DB Engineering and Consulting GmbH
14:20 – 15:05	Panel – Building the workforce of tomorrow for modern supply chains Chair: Fiona Love, Workforce Development, Australasian Railway Association
	Sam Crawford, Head of People, Arc Infrastructure
	Michelle Hoad, Managing Director, North Metropolitan TAFE, WA David Trott, A/GM, Engineering Education Australia A/Prof Ashim Debnath, Head of Civil and Environmental Engineering Discipline Associate Professor of Transportation Engineering, Deakin University
15:05 – 15:35	Afternoon Break
15:35 – 15:55	Presentation – Project update – Victorian Pork Rail Shuttle Network Andrew Newman, Director Policy and Strategy, Freight Victoria, Department of Transport and Planning
15:55 – 16:15	Presentation – Port Botany Regional Rail Incentive Scheme CBA Lachlan Benson, Managing Director, Blue Arcadia
16:15 – 16:55	Panel – Innovating to achieve modal shift Chair: Jonathan Lafforgue, General Manager Operations and Environment, NSW Ports
	Andrew Newman, Director Policy and Strategy, Freight Victoria
	Bianca Slack-Smith, Director Policy and Regulatory Reform, Freight Branch, Transport for NSW Mike Gallacher, CEO, Ports Australia Scott Cornish, Head of Regional, Queensland Rail Cramer Ball, Chief Customer and Commercial Officer, Pacific National
16:55 – 17:00	Conference Closing Remarks Caroline Wilkie, CEO, Australasian Railway Association

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