



ARTP
association of railway training providers

Our vision is to be the voice of trainer and assessor organisations throughout the Railway Industry

ARTP Newsletter January 2009

19/1/2009

Message from the Chairman

The Chairman and Board of ARTP would like to wish all our members a happy and prosperous 2009.

2008 Achievements

In 2008 we undertook to strengthen our relationship with Network Rail and we are confident that we have achieved this through our 2 special interest groups whose reports appear below. We have retained and extended the 15% members' discount on training materials for Track Safety, Machine and Crane Controllers and OTP Operators, and a 10% discount on membership of GoSkills. Throughout the year we have also maintained productive relationships with RSSB, CIRAS and RIA.

AGM & Seminar 2009 - 4 February 2009

Please take this as formal notification that the AGM will take place on **Wednesday 4 February** at 10.00 at the **Wellcome Collection Conference Centre**, 183 Euston Road, NW1 2EE, conveniently located within walking distance of Euston station. The seminar will run from 11.00 to 15.30 Speakers are yet to be confirmed but we anticipate an interesting and stimulating day. Lunch will be provided.

The AGM provides the opportunity for members to question and comment on the 2008 report, elect board members for 2009 and have their say on the Action Plan for this year, as well as to meet old and new friends.

You will shortly receive your invitation which will tell you how to reserve places and make nominations for the board.

We need your views

After a year of consolidation and building on our existing strengths we now need to look ahead. If you are unable to attend the AGM we still need your ideas. The contact address for ARTP is 22 Headfort Place, London, SW1X 7RY

Mark Ruddy has been Network Rail's Head of Competence & Training for just under two years. In that time, he has driven a progressive programme of internal improvements focussed on: embedding a systematic approach to training, business led training requirements, improving the impact of training materials and delivery, increased volume of delivery, and clinically efficient administration. He has overseen the introduction of continuous competency assessment and the NR Advanced Apprenticeship scheme, which won the 2007 CIPD Business Impact and Personnel Management Awards.



Mark Ruddy came to the railway directly from a 27 year career in the Royal Engineers. His early career was facing the Inner German Border – when “the Russians were coming” - centred on large scale rapid obstacle construction and battlefield mobility (minefields / demolitions & bridging). He has managed multiple construction programmes around the world either in support of a deployed military force or supporting the indigenous population during post conflict operations. He saw active service in Northern Ireland, The Balkans and, latterly in Southern Iraq – where he was the Chief Engineer, responsible for the delivery of improved governance, municipal & regional regeneration, essential services (power, water, fuel, sanitation) and economic growth. The rest of his service was focussed on Training. His most recent such role was as commander of the Construction Engineer School in Chatham – the largest artisan training facility in Europe.

Having spent his initial months on internal improvements to NR, Mark needs now to both learn about and influence the wider rail training sector if the “skills” part of the industry is to appropriately influence the rate of “workforce capability improvement” needed. He has accepted the invitation to join the ARTP Board to do just that.

News from RSSB

Workforce Development at the RSSB have launched an extranet which offers new opportunities for sharing information on training, development, assessment, accreditation and licensing across the whole industry.

Currently the extranet provides a means of communication for various workforce development project groups with an events diary, meeting papers and discussion forums. Further developments are planned which will make this a valuable resource and CPD opportunity for the whole training community.

For further information and to register contact karen.dorato-namocatcat@rssb.co.uk

If you want to be kept up to date on current research at RSSB you can subscribe to the Research and Development Newsletter. Go to www.rssb.co.uk/research/enews.asp.

OLE Competence Standard for Construction

Network Rail, working with the Rail Industry Association (RIA) and 10

supplier organisations have produced a draft competency framework for overhead line construction staff.

The final version is expected to be published in the New Year.

Plant & Standards Group SIG

The Plant and Standards Special Interest Group meet on a monthly basis in Derby with an opportunity to meet fellow members with similar roles or views. The meeting enables them to keep up-to-date with new or amended standards and to review these documents enabling feedback to the applicable stakeholder. This is beneficial both to the members and the stakeholder who has a range of perspectives to enable a holistic approach when developing or amending standards.

Sentinel OTP Project

The ARTP was asked to become involved in developing the Sentinel On-Track Plant (OTP) operator scheme (OTP includes Road Rail Vehicles and Rail Mounted Maintenance Machines). This scheme was intended to replace the CPCS Rail Plant scheme which was to end on the 31st December 2008; however this has now been put back to the 27th March 2009 with the OTP scheme becoming live on the 30th March 2009. The delay is due to some of the OTP Operator training events awaiting completion, causing a delay in the review and validation. 26 training modules and Sentinel re-assessment materials have been completed to date; developers are working on the remaining 13, of which 9 are near completion. For further information on the Sentinel scheme, please see Network Rail's specification NR/L2/CTM/025.

Changes to the Rule Book/Standards

At the last meeting, the changes to the Rule Book for December were reviewed with Les Moyles of RSSB. Les has kindly agreed to attend the ARTP Plant and Standards meetings two months before any Rule Book changes and will brief members of the proposed changes and background.

Plant Training Material

Richard Bassett, who is the Network Rail Train Operations Specialist, attended a recent meeting to discuss changes with the Machine/Crane Controller training packages. Richard has kindly agreed to attend future meetings following any changes to the training packages to get feedback on the changes made to see if they are effective.

Accident/Incidents

Each month incidents and accidents involving rail plant machines are discussed to ensure all are aware of any issues which affect the members and to identify and system failures and possible control measures to prevent reoccurrence.

Group Meetings

The meetings are held at Derby in MTR's Training Centre in London Road

and are open to all members who are interested in Plant or Standards. If you need any further information please contact the Secretariat at info@artp.co.uk or Andy Crago at: andy.crago@hydrex.co.uk

Minutes of previous meetings can be found in the documents section of the ARTP website www.artp.co.uk

Meetings are held in Derby starting at 10.00 unless shown otherwise. 2009 dates are as follows:

22 January
19 February
19 March
16 April
21 May
18 June
16 July
20 August
17 September
15 October
19 November
17 December

Track Safety Special Interest Group

The Track Safety Special Interest Group has identified a number of key issues over a broad spectrum that affect members. These include:

- Disparity between training plans and current competency standards
- Sentinel problems
- Delays to Achilles Audits

The group is to work positively with the relevant personnel within Network Rail to resolve these issues to the benefit of the industry. If members have any comments or ideas to improve any aspect of the track safety regime please contact Board Member Terry Donaldson at terry.donaldson@wyg.com