



*The Railway Forum*

## ***Press Release***

12 Grosvenor Place  
London SW1X 7HH

Telephone: 020 7259 6543

Facsimile: 020 7259 6544

e-mail: [railinfo@railwayforum.com](mailto:railinfo@railwayforum.com)

25 July 2006

For immediate use

# **RAILWAY FORUM SORRY TO HEAR THAT CHRISTOPHER GARNETT TO STAND DOWN FROM GNER**

The news that Christopher Garnett is to stand down as Chief Executive of GNER comes as a disappointment to The Railway Forum. Over the past ten years his exceptional leadership of the franchise has established it as one of the leading railway businesses in terms of service quality and one that has certainly raised the profile of the railways all along the East Coast Main Line.

Furthermore during his time at the head of the franchise he faced, along with his team, severe tests of leadership including the tragic accidents at Potters Bar and Great Heck. The fact that GNER showed great courage and cohesion during these times of adversity is a particular tribute to his personal, 'lead from the front' style.

'Christopher has set a record for having held a Train Operating Company Chief Executive post longer than anyone else. In addition he has also been a long-serving member of The Railway Forum Council', says Adrian Lyons, Director General of The Railway Forum. 'But these form only a small part of his story during the last decade. His brand of enthusiastic leadership has defined in GNER in a unique way and built up a fiercely loyal customer base. We wish him the best of fortune in whatever he plans to do next but know that the standards he has set will long be an influence on the industry.'

-Ends-

## Notes to Editors:

1. The Railway Forum is an industry-wide body sponsored by the majority of the train operating companies, Network Rail, all three major rolling stock leasing companies, the Passenger Transport Executives, Transport for London, most of the infrastructure companies and many manufacturing and other businesses serving the UK rail industry. In all we have over 50 members. Our key role is to act as a think tank, information exchange and point of contact for those committed to and interested in our industry.
2. The GNER Press Centre (along with relevant contact numbers) can be found at: <http://www.gner.co.uk/GNER/PressCentre/default.htm>

For more information call Adrian Lyons at The Railway Forum:

Tel: 020 7259 6543      Fax: 020 7259 6544      Mobile: 07775 992348

E-mail: [railinfo@railwayforum.com](mailto:railinfo@railwayforum.com)