



The Railway Forum

Press Release

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For immediate use

FUTURE POWER FOR THE RAILWAYS

'RAILWAY FORUM AND RAIL RESEARCH UK HOLD INDUSTRY'S FIRST SEMINAR ON FUTURE POWER ON THE RAILWAYS'

On 10 March a groundbreaking seminar to consider the development of power on the railways sponsored by The Railway Forum and Rail Research UK, with the support of The Rail Safety and Standards Board, will be held at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

The railway industry is conscious that in a fast changing world energy prices will be very volatile and in addition a range of new and improved power technologies will be available in the future to meet increasingly demanding environmental targets.

At present there is no formal R&D effort within the railway industry to bring the various strands of work together. The industry believes it is important that this debate should start now even though some of the ideas might take some time to come to fruition.

'Energy costs are very volatile and power technologies available to us are changing fast. There are a number of big challenges and exciting possibilities for the railways to consider', says Adrian Lyons, Director General, The Railway Forum. 'The seminar on 10 March will be a key stage in clarifying this debate better'.

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Notes to editors:

1. The Future Power Technologies Seminar will be held on 10 March 2005 at The Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1 Birdcage Walk, London SW1H 9JJ between 10.00hrs and 16.30hrs. If you would like to attend or receive a transcript of the day, please contact Zoë Reeve on 020 7259 6399 or by email: zreeve@railwayforum.com.
2. 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, London Underground, most of the infrastructure maintenance companies and many manufacturing and other businesses serving the UK rail industry. Other complementary railway industry bodies including The Railway Industry Association and ATOC are also 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.
3. Rail Research UK (RRUK) was established by the EPSRC in May 2003. It consists of a core of thirteen research groups from eight universities specialising in or contributing to railway research. RRUK's mission is: "To support the UK railway industry by providing a focal point for university based world-class research." For more information please visit the RRUK website: www.railresearchuk.org.uk
4. Rail Safety and Standards Board was established in April 2003 as an independent, not for profit organisation tasked with improving safety performance across the national rail network. The company is owned by the railway industry, is limited by guarantee and has a board and an advisory committee. It is independent of any single railway company and their commercial interests.

For more information call:

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