First Rail Systems Engineering Workshop  
Tuesday 7th July 2009  
London Underground, 55 Broadway, London

Initial Announcement and Call for Presentations

This is an exciting time for systems engineering in rail as a wave of realisation spreads across the industry that effective systems engineering is just as essential to delivering the railway that society demands as the traditional engineering disciplines are. The RIG is proud to support the rail industry in learning how best to apply systems engineering by providing a forum for the exchange of experience and good practice.

After a successful series of evening presentations, the RIG is now organising a day-long workshop to explore in more detail three difficult questions that rail organisations face in increasing their take-up of systems engineering:

- How should we apply systems engineering principles in the rail environment?
- How do we find enough rail systems people?
- How do we write systems engineering into contracts?

The workshop will adopt the format used with such success to date – short presentations by practitioners active in the field describing real, current activities with balanced reflections on their effectiveness. The day-long duration will allow participants to listen to several perspectives on each question and then discuss whether an answer is emerging. London Underground and Network Rail have already agreed to present at the workshop and the RIG seeks additional presentations.

London Underground have kindly agreed to host the event at their facilities in central London and the RIG is grateful to them for their support.

We hope that you will reserve the date in your diary.

To offer a presentation or for any other questions, please contact the RIG Chair, Bruce Elliott at bruce.elliott@arbutus-tc.co.uk or on +44 (0)7970 694043. Offers of presentations should be received by 25th March 2009.

The International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE) is a not-for-profit membership organization founded in 1990 to develop and disseminate the interdisciplinary principles and practices that enable the realization of successful systems. Today, there are over six thousand members who work together to advance their technical knowledge, exchange ideas with colleagues, and collaborate to advance systems engineering.

The INCOSE UK Rail Interest Group has been formed:

- To provide a forum for those interested in Systems Engineering in rail to network in a less formal environment, to exchange good practice and to provide mutual support in an area which can require some sustained perseverance;
- To promote, improve and share the practice of Systems Engineering within the rail industry;
- To foster connections with other professional bodies within rail and thereby promote cross fertilisation of knowledge and experience across sectors and community disciplines; and
- To promote awareness of INCOSE UK and encourage membership within the rail industry.

For further information, see www.incoseonline.org.uk and click on the ‘Groups’ tab.

26th February 2009