



Rail Turnouts

by informa

28 JULY 2026 | PARK HYATT MELBOURNE

**Co-located with Rail Freight Conference
29 – 30 July 2026**

CONSOLIDATING AND SHARING THE TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE FOR RAIL TURNOUTS

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:



Cris Fitzhardinge, *Senior Standards Development Manager, ARISO*



Amy Lezala, *Chief Engineer – Rail, Department of Transport and Planning, Victoria*



Darcy Carroll, *Engineering Manager, Vossloh Switch Systems Australia*



Sudha Niles, *General Manager – Products & Innovation, ARISO*



Dr Elias Kassa, *Principal Engineer and Team Leader, Monash Institute of Railway Technology*



Professor Ravi Ravitharan, *Director, Monash Institute of Railway Technology*



Luke Pleasance, *Track and Civil Engineering Manager, ARTC*



Paul Wellington, *Manager – Road Engineering Standards, Department of Transport and Planning, Victoria*



Andrew Bussey, *National Services Manager, voestalpine Railway Systems*



Jai Nunn, *Director of Infrastructure, V/Line*



Surbhi Maheshwari, *Building Services Engineer, Metro Trains Melbourne*



Dinesh Nagarajan, *Engineering Manager, Salix*

MODULES INCLUDE:

Module 1: Fundamentals + Introductory Case Study

Build or refresh your foundational knowledge

Module 2: Standards

Comprehensive coverage of the National Standards Framework and type approvals

Module 3: Design and Engineering

Real-world case studies on capacity enhancement and standardisation

Module 4: Maintenance

From refurbishment strategies to remote and real-time monitoring of switches and crossings

Module 5: Signalling

NTC updates and safety improvements around special trackwork

Module 6: Manufacturing and Assembly

Scientific approaches to optimisation and performance enhancement

Module 7: Practical Problem-Solving

Interactive session – Finding practical solutions to real-world challenges, tackling common industry issues

Module 8: Turnout Supply and Installation

Dual gauge turnouts: Insights into the engineering complexities and practical applications

Module 9: R&D and Training

Panel discussion on knowledge retention and competency development

Rail Turnouts

Tuesday 28 July 2026

7:45 REGISTRATION

Networking coffee and refreshments

8:00 Safety briefing

8:05 OPENING | Morning Briefing

Cris Fitzhardinge, *Senior Standards Development Manager, ARISO*

MODULE 1: FUNDAMENTALS + INTRODUCTORY CASE STUDY

8:10 Dr Elias Kassa, *Principal Engineer and Team Leader, Monash Institute of Railway Technology*

MODULE 2: STANDARDS

8:50 ASK ARISO

The National Standards framework and track infrastructure

Join ARISO to discuss the National Standards Framework, and how the Framework will drive interoperability and harmonization in track infrastructure.

Cris Fitzhardinge, *Senior Standards Development Manager, ARISO*

Sudha Niles, *General Manager – Products & Innovation, ARISO*

9:20 CASE STUDY

National type approvals

Amy Lezala, *Chief Engineer – Rail, Department of Transport and Planning, Victoria*

Paul Wellington, *Manager – Road Engineering Standards, Department of Transport and Planning, Victoria*

MODULE 3: DESIGN AND ENGINEERING

9:50 CASE STUDY

Standardisation, interchangeability, and collaboration in large scale turnout design

Darcy Carroll, *Engineering Manager, Vossloh Switch Systems Australia*

MODULE 4: MAINTENANCE

10:15 CASE STUDY

A maintainers perspective of operational reliability and resilience

Jai Nunn, *Director of Infrastructure, V/Line*

10:40 Networking and refreshment break

11:10 CASE STUDY

Turnout refurbishment: From identification to scoping to delivery

Luke Pleasance, *Track and Civil Engineering Manager, ARTC*

11:35 CASE STUDY

Turnout maintenance: Key techniques for optimal performance

Andrew Bussey, *National Services Manager, voestalpine Railway Systems*

12:00 CASE STUDY

Remote and real-time monitoring of switches and crossings

Dr Elias Kassa, *Principal Engineer and Team Leader, Monash Institute of Railway Technology*

12:25 CASE STUDY

Maintaining turnouts in autonomous railways

12:50 Lunch and networking break



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MODULE 5: SIGNALLING MODULE

13:50 NTC Update: Rail Reform and the National Rail Action Plan

Senior Representative, National Transport Commission

14:15 PANEL DISCUSSION

How to improve safety around Special Trackwork components

Darcy Carroll, *Engineering Manager, Vossloh Switch Systems Australia*

Further panellists to be advised

MODULE 6: MANUFACTURING AND ASSEMBLY

14:55 CASE STUDY

Robust scientific approach to optimising heavy haul rail turnouts

Darrien Welsby, *Principal Engineer - Wheel/Rail Interface & Track Engineering, Monash Institute of Railway Technology*

MODULE 7: PRACTICAL PROBLEM-SOLVING

15:20 INTERACTIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING SESSION

Given the brilliant minds in the room, it's an opportunity to collaborate, share ideas and find practical solutions to real-world challenges, fostering open and honest knowledge-sharing to tackle common industry issues.

Moderated by: Luke Pleasance, *Track and Civil Engineering Manager, ARTC*

15:55 Networking and refreshment break

MODULE 8: TURNOUT SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION

16:20 Dual gauge turnouts: Insights into the engineering complexities and practical applications of these specialised systems

Dinesh Nagarajan, *Engineering Manager, Salix*

MODULE 9: R&D AND TRAINING

16:45 PANEL DISCUSSION

Industry knowledge, retention, training and competency

- Addressing a knowledge gap in asset management decision-making
- Issue of losing institutional knowledge when projects end or staff turnover occurs
- Need for comprehensive training new staff in rail-specific roles set organisations up for success
- Explore the need for specific training and high-level qualifications for turnout inspections

Professor Ravi Ravitharan, *Director, Monash Institute of Railway Technology*

Surbhi Maheshwari, *Building Services Engineer, Metro Trains Melbourne*

Further panellists to be advised

17:30 Closing remarks from the Chair

17:35 Networking Function

SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES

Attracting a growing and specialised audience, the Rail Turnouts Workshop offers unique networking and business development opportunities with technical experts, senior decisions-makers and customers within the rail industry. Contact Sarah Ingram for a copy of the sponsorship & exhibition prospectus today!

Contact **Sarah Ingram, Sponsorship & Exhibition Sales Manager, Sarah.Ingram@informa.com or +61 406 530 043.**



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28 July 2026 | Park Hyatt Melbourne

Easy Ways to Register

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- 2 Telephone**
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- 3 Email**
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Pricing Details

Register Early & Save	Early Bird Rate				Standard Rate		
	Book & pay by 19 June 2026				Book & pay from 20 June 2026		
Conference Package	PRICE	GST	TOTAL	SAVE	PRICE	GST	TOTAL
Rail Turnouts Workshop Pass	\$1,495.00	\$149.50	\$1,644.50	\$100	\$1,595.00	\$159.50	\$1,754.50
Rail Freight Combined Package	\$3,476.50	\$347.65	\$3,824.15	\$255	\$3,731.50	\$373.15	\$4,104.65
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS REGISTRATION (UNDER 35) - 50% DISCOUNT	PRICE	GST	TOTAL	SAVE	PRICE	GST	TOTAL
Rail Turnouts Workshop Pass	\$795.00	\$79.50	\$874.50	\$100	\$895.00	\$89.50	\$984.50
Package (Rail Turnouts + Rail Freight)	\$1,737.88	\$173.79	\$1,911.67	\$127	\$1,865.00	\$186.50	\$2,051.50

* Please note: To receive the Young Professionals discounted rate, you must be aged 35 years or younger. Note that you will be required to provide ID on the day of the event. Please advise D.O.B in form below.

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RAIL TURNOUTS 2026 | SPECIAL OFFER

Enjoy a **15% DISCOUNT** when registering for both **RAIL FREIGHT 2026 on 29-30 July** and the specialist **RAIL TURNOUTS WORKSHOP** being held on the 28 July 2026.

An intensive, focused introduction to the fundamental technical knowledge, the Rail Turnouts Workshop will exchange and transfer knowledge from a range of experts working across the field.

VENUE DETAILS

Park Hyatt Melbourne | 1 Parliament Square, off, Parliament Pl, Melbourne VIC 3002

Phone: (03) 9224 1234



SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION RATE

The venue has provided a special event accommodation rate of **20% off** the best available rate of the day* for conference attendees at the Park Hyatt Melbourne for the nights of 27-29 July 2026 inclusive.

Visit the conference website for booking details.

RAIL TRAVEL

Melbourne Metro Train

Parliament Station is the closest train station, located just a short walk (approx 200-300 meters) from the Park Hyatt Melbourne. Use all City Loop lines including Burnley, Clifton Hill, Northern, and Sandringham groups serv

From Melbourne Airport

If you're arriving from Melbourne Airport (Tullamarine):

– **SkyBus:** Take the SkyBus to Southern Cross Station, then transfer to any City Loop train to Parliament Station

Tram Options

The Park Hyatt Melbourne is within the Free Tram Zone, which allows you to travel on trams within the Melbourne CBD and Docklands areas without needing to touch on with a myki card.

– **Tram Route 86** and **Route 96** run along Bourke Street, within easy walking distance

– **Tram Route 11** runs along Spring Street, very close to the hotel

General Myki card information: Transport Victoria - Myki <https://transport.vic.gov.au/tickets-and-myki/myki>