

industry currently lacks any sponsorship for developing train integrity, a pre-requisite for introducing ETCS Level 3.

It would seem that nobody really sees it as their problem to solve. It is likely that any train integrity approach will have interoperability implications that will need to be embodied in a TSI (Technical Specification for Interoperability); we think that a combined industry approach to agreeing a common solution to

train integrity seems to be required and maybe the ERA, as the custodians of the ERTMS functional and system requirements, should provide some direction.

We would welcome the continuation of this debate in the pages of IRSE NEWS to see what progress can be made.

**Michael Watkins CEng MIET FIRSE
Director, Raitel Consult Limited**

ON THE MOVE

Linbrooke appoints its first rail business MD



Mark James

Having delivered award winning and innovative works alongside some of the industry's leading names, Mark James is to leave his position as the Head of Engineering for Signalling in Network Rail's Infrastructure Projects business in pursuit of another new adventure, joining Linbrooke as its first Managing Director for its Rail business on the 26th May 2015.

With his extensive project delivery experience and his passion for workmanship

quality, James joined British Rail at the age of 16 as an apprentice, where via a sandwich degree education at Salford University gained with First Class Honours he went on to become the Signal Maintenance Engineer at London's Euston station before joining Railtrack as the Zone Signal Engineer North West as that company's formation.

He then joined Jarvis Rail as Divisional S&T Engineer East to extend his experience of front line network support experience in a commercial environment and from there, joined First Engineering becoming Operations Director South developing their north western England organisation for project delivery including establishing the initial alliancing contract delivery models with Railtrack for signalling renewal and the TPWS national fitment programmes.

Mark's first major project experience was gained working in the South Manchester Alliance for Atkins, in partnership with Bechtel, Carillion and Railtrack Major Projects as part of the West Coast Mainline Modernisation programme which lead to delivering the award winning Rugby Nuneaton project that in significant part secured the Virgin High Frequency timetable introduction for December 2008. This lead to further award winning delivery for Atkins, Network Rail and Transport for London on the signalling elements of the 2012 delivery programme on the North London Line.

After moving from Atkins to Network Rail in March 2012, Mark successfully completed a number of engineering organisation development projects - including the restructuring of the leadership and delivery planning of the internal to NR Signalling Design Group, the reorganisation of the Testing and Commissioning assurance group and the strategy for the development of NR's own internal T&C resource teams. He also led the development of integrated supply chain signalling innovation programmes which has seen class 2 power and plug and play technology gain network product approval amongst other notable firsts.

As an individual who believes that *'true collaboration is hard, but well worth the effort, and that honest partnering at all strata of the supply chain is the way forward'*, James is very enthusiastic about his new opportunity to work with Linbrooke Services and become an integral part of the leadership of a relatively young but rapidly developing company. He says that *"I believe that the railway industry continues to be an amazing enterprise, populated extensively by trustworthy people who set out every day to give of their best and I am as proud today to work as a part of it as I was starting out in 1978. I am really looking forward to working with Linbrooke to further progress our delivery for the industry."*

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES DUE TO NON-PAYMENT IN THE FIRST YEAR

Due to non-payment of first subscriptions, the names of the members below will be removed from the membership database.

Chapman, J
Kumar R
Thomas JR

UK
India
UK

Wheeler C
Xaba PSP

UK
South Africa