

IRR LAUNCHES INNOVATION CENTRE

THE INSTITUTE of Railway Research (IRR) has inaugurated the Centre for Innovation in Rail (CIR), which has been set up to help the railway supply chain develop innovative products.

The IRR, based at the University of Huddersfield, has also marked the completion of its multi-million-pound test rig, which will enable a wide range of experiments to be conducted on full-size bogies, allowing investigation of issues surrounding the contact patch between wheel and rail.

The rig is supported on a system of air springs to prevent



In the frame: a new £4.5 million 150-tonne bogie test rig at the IRR in Huddersfield. Tony Miles

excessive vibration, can be rotated by up to six degrees in either direction and using modelling carried out on actual rail routes can be set to replicate a complete journey so that the behaviour of wheels and bogies can be monitored.

A pair of high power rams can exert a downward force of up to 50 tonnes each on the bogies to replicate various levels of loading.

The IRR conducts a wide range of research into issues including rolling stock, track materials, railway infrastructure and braking systems. *Tony Miles*

LONDON MIDLAND CCTV DEAL FOR ESG

ROLLING STOCK engineering consultancy ESG has received a turnkey contract from London Midland for the supply of closed circuit television (CCTV) systems. The company is to design, supply, install, test and commission a forward-facing CCTV system on LM's 26 Class 323 and 40 Class 350 EMUs, and will also supply saloon CCTV for the '323' fleet and fit a pantograph camera

to a Class 350/1 vehicle. ESG will also be responsible for training and will ensure three-year operation through the provision of 3G/4G data sims, while providing Wi-Fi connection facilities to enable train to shore communications.

The CCTV systems will be supplied by DTI, and are capable of both live remote viewing and historical downloading.

The pantograph camera will be used to analyse overhead infrastructure conditions, identify and record anomalies and notify the operator of any issues before they impact on passenger service.

Installation will be carried out at LM's Soho depot for the '323s' and at King's Heath depot in Northampton for the '350s'. The project is due to be completed by July 2017.

RICARDO REPOINTS SWITCHES

RICARDO RAIL is leading a consortium that is developing the first installation of a new ultra-high reliability point system designed by Loughborough University. The 'Repoint' system uses several actuators to operate the same points, meaning that in the event of a single failure the remaining actuators can continue to function safely. Repoint also applies a 'lift, hop and drop' mechanism that eliminates the friction experienced by slide chairs in traditional point machines, meaning switches will move in less than half a second, compared to four seconds for conventional designs.

Ricardo has assembled a consortium including Progress Rail, DEG Signal and MPEC Technology to take forward the design, build and trial of a Repoint switch. The first full-scale Repoint is to be integrated with London Underground infrastructure in early 2018.

Linbrooke rewarded for supporting Marines

TELECOMMUNICATIONS FIRM Linbrooke Services has been awarded the Sir Donald Gosling Sword. The prize is presented annually to the business that has provided the most significant support to the Royal Marines Charity over the preceding 12 months. The award was presented to former Royal Marine

and Linbrooke CEO Lee Hallam for his dedication to helping military personnel receive training, gain a profession and transition smoothly back into civilian life. Since 2011, Linbrooke has provided training, development and employment to around 50 'bootnecks' and over 350 military service leavers. The

company's workforce is made up of 40% former military personnel, and it has also introduced a number of other companies to the process of military resettlement while demonstrating a commitment to providing extra housing, welfare and social environment maintenance to the bootnecks it assists.

RCTS OFFERS DRIVER SIM EXPERIENCE

THE RAILWAY Correspondence and Travel Society (RCTS) is running a competition for the opportunity to drive a Class 185 on the TransPennine Express simulator at York.

Society membership is not required to enter the competition, which is open to all enthusiasts over the age of 17. Entry can be made via the RCTS website at www.rcts.org.uk by clicking on the 'What's New' tab, and all that is required is to answer a simple question concerning named HST cars. The competition runs until 2 January 2017.

LONGSIGHT ORDERS FOR MECHAN

DEPOT EQUIPMENT supplier Mechan has received a further order to supply its products to Alstom's Longsight depot in Manchester.

The company will provide 66 bogie stacking frames that will be used to kit out a new storage facility being built on the site. This follows an order for a pair of Mechan's bogie frame rotators and a small jib crane, which were installed at the site's new bogie overhaul facility. The company says Longsight probably has more Mechan equipment than any other depot, and over a 15-year period products supplied include bogie turntables, synchronised jacks, jib cranes and coupler presses.



Stacking up: Mechan bogie frame at Longsight.



The public transport benevolent fund
A range of benefits available to those working in the public transport industry. Just £1 a week covers you, your partner and dependent children.

0300 333 2000

www.tbf.org.uk
help@tbf.org.uk

Transport Benevolent Fund (TBF) is a registered charity in England and Wales, 1160901



Learning on a live railway: IRO members on the K&ESR.

IRO PROMOTES OPS SKILLS

THE INSTITUTION of Railway Operators (IRO) South East section hosted an operational skills weekend at the Kent and East Sussex Railway on 15 and 16 October.

Seven members attended, and gained an insight into operating a railway by trying out operational skills in a live railway environment. Tasks undertaken included acting

as train guard, working on the footplate and in signal boxes and with the station master at Tenterden dealing with general station duties, front line customer service and train despatch. Members also had the opportunity to drive the railway's Class 108 DMU at the end of the day once passenger operations had finished.

THURSFIELD SMITH CONSULTANCY

Planning Railway Infrastructure and Services
Railway Modernisation and Engineering
Modal Interchange
Transport policy
Transport Land Use and the Environment
Scheme plans and cost estimates

Contact:
David Smith, 25 Grange Road,
Shrewsbury SY3 9DG
Tel/Fax: 01743 246407
E-mail: david@thursfieldsmith.co.uk
www.thursfieldsmith.co.uk



A competition open to all - Society membership not needed
**In conjunction with TRANSPENNINE EXPRESS
the RCTS offers you a chance to**

DRIVE A CLASS 185

ON THE DRIVER SIMULATOR AT YORK.

Up to £30 contribution to your travel costs

To enter the competition, answer one simple question which you will find on our website at

www.rcts.org.uk

When you get there select the 'Whats New' tab for all the information and the entry screen.

Competition Closing Date – 2nd January 2017

The Railway Correspondence and Travel Society

– *Britain's leading railway Society*

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Platform Train Interfaces: Safety for a growing network, conference, 5 December, London

Details at <http://events.imeche.org/ViewEvent?e=6444>

Christmas lecture – safety of the railway, lecture, 5 December, Swindon

Details at <http://nearyou.imeche.org/eventdetail?id=12433>

Lincolnshire Iron and Steel Institute Event – Zinoco – Protecting Rail in Corrosive Environments, lecture, 5 December, Scunthorpe

Details at <http://nearyou.imeche.org/eventdetail?id=12793>

Door optimisation workshop, 6 December, London

Details at <http://events.imeche.org/ViewEvent?e=6445>

High speed rail travel in Europe, lecture, 6 December, Wrexham

Details at <http://nearyou.imeche.org/eventdetail?id=12341>

Rolling stock maintenance summit, 7-8 December, London

Details at <http://www.rolling-stock-maintenance.com/>

Different but similar – Bus, Rail and Tram Engineering, lecture, 8 December, Glasgow

Details at <http://nearyou.imeche.org/eventdetail?id=12468>

London Bridge Redevelopment – behind the scenes, visits, 8 and 15 December

Details at <http://www.theiet.org/events/local/243381.cfm> and

<http://www.theiet.org/events/local/243382.cfm>

Manchester Metrolink – growing the system, lecture, 12 December, London

Details at <http://events.imeche.org/ViewEvent?e=6387>

Railway Electrification, lecture, 13 December, Brighton

Details at <http://www.theiet.org/events/2016/242110.cfm>

An Evening with Christian Wolmar, talk, 15 December, Bristol

Details at <http://valeofberkeleyrailway.co.uk/event/christian-wolmar/>

Design of HS2, lecture, 4 January, Reading

Details at <http://nearyou.imeche.org/eventdetail?id=12434>

The Merseyrail Fleet Replacement Programme, lecture, 10 January, Manchester

Details at <http://nearyou.imeche.org/eventdetail?id=12372>

What are the Universities doing for the railway?, lecture, 11 January, Derby

Details at <http://nearyou.imeche.org/eventdetail?id=12081>

Glasgow Subway Modernisation, lecture, 18 January, Glasgow

Details at <http://www.theiet.org/events/local/243188.cfm>

Electrifying Scotland in the 21st century, lecture, 19 January, Glasgow

Details at <http://nearyou.imeche.org/eventdetail?id=12302>

Golden Whistle Awards at the Modern Railways

Fourth Friday Club, luncheon, 27 January, London

After-lunch speaker: Michael Holden, former chief executive, Directly Operated Railways

and chairman, East Coast

Details at www.4thfriday.co.uk

Official publication:
Modern Railways



The Railway Consultancy Ltd

Operations, Planning, Economics and Management

Our key areas of expertise include:

- Demand Forecasting
- Data Collection and Analysis
- Timetable and Service Planning
- Operational Performance Audits
- Operational Simulation
- Industry Economics
- Project Appraisal

1st Floor South Tower
Crystal Palace Station
London SE19 2AZ

T +44 20 8676 0395

F +44 20 8778 7439

E info@railwayconsultancy.com
www.railwayconsultancy.com

How can we help your business?

Please contact us for more information on our services.

Registered Office: 43a Palace Square, Crystal Palace, London SE19 2LT Registered in England & Wales no. 3279538